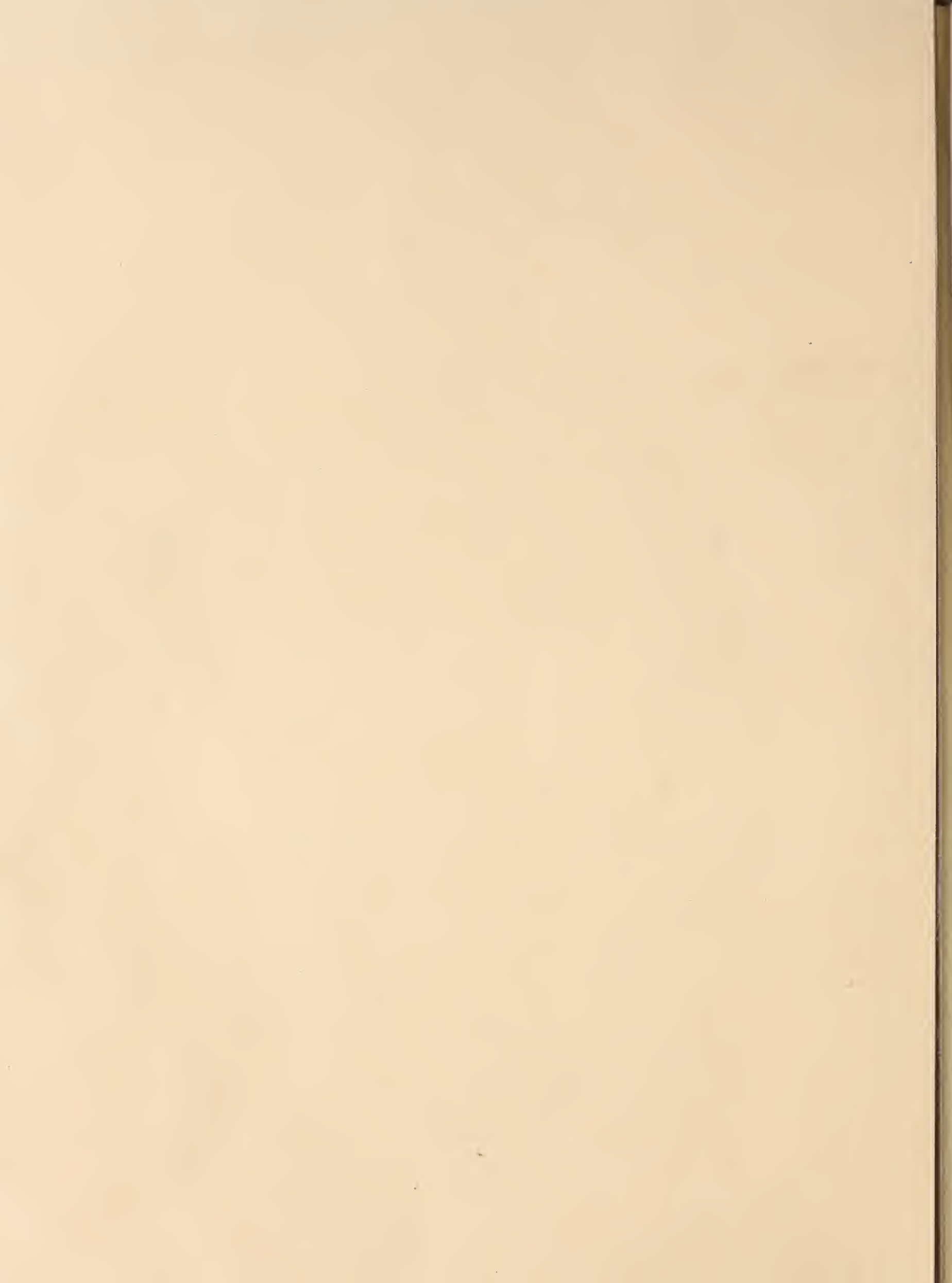


## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 21

Section 1

July 26, 1934

## CHICAGO STOCK YARDS

Efforts to settle the strike of 800 Union Stock handlers, which has tied up the Union Stock Yards since day before yesterday, were started last evening as the strike saw its first violence, says a Chicago report to the New York Times. Meanwhile, the glut of cattle in the yards was relieved. While a large number of animals remained in the pens, particularly the half-starved beasts purchased by the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation in drought areas, they were receiving adequate care and many were moved to roofed sheds where they were sheltered from the sun. The stock yards, unless the strike is ended, will be cleared of cattle by Friday, livestock commission men predicted.

## ARGENTINE TRADE

The United States is increasing her sales to Argentina faster than any other selling nation except Canada, according to the report of the National Statistical Bureau for the first half of this year, just published, says a Buenos Aires report to the New York Times. The official figures show Argentina's imports from all sources increased by 17.7 percent while imports from the United States increased by 30 percent. British imports increased by 5 percent, compared with the first half of last year, and German by 6 percent. Imports from Italy, Spain, France and Japan decreased. Canadian imports doubled, but they represent only 1 3/4 percent of the total.

## CORN TRADING

Trading in all grains for May delivery on the Chicago Board of Trade will start today, and a committee of the board has been instructed to limit all trading for May delivery of corn to contracts that call for delivery, according to standards set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Illinois State Grain Inspection Department, in effect subsequent to September 1, 1934. (Press.)

## N.D. DEBT MORATORIUM

A sweeping debt moratorium yesterday was proclaimed by Acting Gov. Ole H. Olson of North Dakota as the first outstanding public act of his 8-day-old administration, says a Bismark report to the Associated Press. Comprehensive enough to include provisions of several moratoria commanded by his deposed predecessor, William Langer, it covered every form of financial obligation the debtor shows inability to pay. The new moratorium was not intended to prevent the collection of ordinary debts, Olson said, but to help cases of distress. Officers and agents of courts were prohibited by it from evicting, from homes or business establishments, from repossessing articles bought on conditioned sales contracts and from foreclosing on mortgages.

## N.Y. MILK

Governor Lehman of New York State was requested yesterday by Senator Fearon to send a special message to the legislature paving the way for legislation to facilitate distribution of free milk to needy mothers and children. (New York Times.)



## Section 2

Restriction of Production      "Those who are fearful of the present policy of restriction of agricultural production can find something encouraging in a statement which Secretary Wallace made at one of his press conferences," says an editorial in the Wall Street Journal (July 21). "In substance it was that he was opposed to a permanent restriction of the agricultural plant as a way out of the present difficulties. There may be room for argument as to whether or not temporary reduction was advisable, but that is threshing old straw. The important thing is not what has been, but what we may expect will be done. Acreage reduction, benefit payments and processing taxes are not to be a permanent policy of the Administration, according to Mr. Wallace. But, having embarked upon the enterprise, how is the Administration to withdraw? Mr. Wallace declares these to be expedients to help raise the farm purchasing power to its pre-war level, but he looks upon a revival of exports of farm products as the only real and permanent solution of the problem. In proportion as we succeed in opening foreign markets for products of the farm these expedients will be withdrawn. Undoubtedly he is correct in looking upon the export market as the biggest thing in the farm problem, but we must appreciate the fact that it will be a difficult and perhaps prolonged task to regain it..."

Newsprint From Pine      "We understand that the last of the objections which had been raised by northern pulp and paper manufacturers to the process for making newsprint out of southern pine have been overcome," says an editorial in the American Press (July). "If this is true, and we assume that it is, there seems to be no ground left on which to oppose the immediate establishment of a commercial paper mill to manufacture newsprint in the South. We understand that funds are or will be made available for such a unit, and we hope that the project will be carried to speedy completion. One commercial plant, actually turning out a good grade of newsprint at a cost of several dollars a ton less than the northern product costs, will be the opening wedge for the establishment of a huge new American industry, and that in a region where industries are greatly needed. From the newspaper point of view, the advantage of lower costs alone, assuming that Dr. Herty's process proves out in practice as it does in the laboratory, would be sufficient to warrant enthusiastic support of the project. And from the angle of national interest and economic recovery, to put millions of acres of what is now waste land to use, in growing a profitable crop of young pine trees for the mills; to give employment to a large number of American workers and to make the United States independent of any foreign country for its supply of this highly important commodity--those considerations combine to enlist the support of every patriotic American."

Cotton Looms      In the space of three years the number of cotton manufacturing looms in Lancashire has decreased by 104,935, but Japan's total has increased by 88,877, says a Manchester (England) report to the Wall Street Journal (July 23). Great Britain now possesses a total of 587,964 ordinary and automatic looms, as compared with 692,899, and Japan has 277,343 against 188,466, according to the International Federation of Master Cotton



Spinners and Manufacturers Association. The total number of looms in the world is only slightly changed since 1930. The total for Europe shows a decrease of 67,646, chiefly borne by Great Britain. In the United States the number of looms has been reduced by 85,322, that country now possessing 613,633 looms, as against 699,955. The decrease in Lancashire and in the United States are nearly offset by increases in Japan, China, India and Russia.

"More Milk"  
Campaign

"Sister states, suffering from a curdled milk situation, watch enviously as New York launches her unique advertising campaign to increase the drinking of fresh milk and cream," says Business Week (July 21). "The statement that underconsumption rather than overproduction is our real trouble has become a bromide of depression economists. Repeated impact of this idea caused the last legislature to appropriate half a million dollars for advertising this famous food. The fund is produced by a levy of 1 cent per hundred pounds of milk sold, the cost being shared equally by the dairyman and the distributor. The money must be spent in the state. Initial phase is the placing of copy in the 114 English dailies and in 30 foreign-language newspapers...First ads are appearing in upstate cities. The largest copy takes 12 inches on 5 columns. Appeal is carefully separated to apply in large consuming areas and in the producing areas. Metropolitan papers will carry ads that urge greater use of milk for children because it is 'as necessary as sunshine and almost as cheap'. Per capita consumption in upstate producing districts is less than in New York City; therefore, copy for such centers adds to the health arguments a plea to drink more milk so that farmers in the trade territory will have more money to spend..."

Canned  
Roses

Canned roses are not quoted on market exchanges, but the industry, founded on development of a new process of sealing plants in air-tight containers, has grown to a surprising extent, says a San Francisco report to the A.P. This year a single nursery at San Jose will ship more than a million rosebushes in the newly perfected containers and throughout the state more than 500 varieties of roses are being marketed in this manner. The rosebush is pruned to fit a cardboard box about 15 inches long. The portion in which the roots are placed is coated with tar to retain moisture. The plants are dipped in a double-boiler type, electrically heated vat to receive a thin coating of paraffin at temperatures from 165 to 180 degrees. The vat's galvanized walls have a space filled with magnesia powder as insulation. The preservative power of the melted wax has been demonstrated. One grower reported successfully treating cuttings of dahlias and other flowers so that they could be held in storage nearly a year.

Rural Relief  
Study

Drafted from the faculties of six institutions of learning, a group of professor investigators has been organized by the FERA to find factual answers to how and why such large proportions of the population in six well defined rural areas of the country have come to be dependent on relief. These areas have come to the attention of the FERA as special problems because of the unusually high percentages of the people receiving Federal aid over a considerable period in comparison with the percentages of rural population receiving help in other parts of the country.



## Section 3.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

July 25--Livestock at Chicago: (Closing Quotations) Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$5.25-\$9-75; cows good \$2.75-4.50; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$5.00-\$7.00; vealers good and choice \$4.50-6.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice \$4.00-5.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice \$4.00-4.60; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$4.50-4.70; 250-350 lbs good and choice \$4.50-4.70; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$2.75-3.50. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.00-6.65. (Largely Clean-up Market on account of Strike).

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.08 $\frac{1}{4}$ -1.12 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 Am.Dur.\* Minneap. \$1.07-1 $\frac{1}{8}$ -\$1.11-7 $\frac{7}{8}$ ; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ -99 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Chi. \$1-01 $\frac{3}{4}$ -1.03 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St.Louis \$1.03; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis 96 $\frac{1}{2}$ -98¢; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 81¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 74 $\frac{1}{4}$ -77 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 67 $\frac{3}{4}$ -69 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St.Louis 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 65 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 44 $\frac{3}{4}$ -45 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; K.C. 46-48¢; Chi. 43 $\frac{3}{4}$ -44 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St.Louis 46¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 95-97¢; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.87 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1.92 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

\$1.25-1.90 per stave barrel in eastern cities;

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged/\$1-1.05 f.o.b. East Shore points. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 80¢-\$1 in the East. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.50 in Cincinnati. New Jersey Yellow onions brought \$1-1.10 per per 50-pound sack in New York City. East Shore Virginia stock \$1-1.15 in Pittsburgh. North Carolina Hiley peaches, all sizes, \$1.25-\$2 per bushel basket in a few cities; Bellos \$1.10 f.o.b. Candor. Georgia Elbertas 85¢-\$1.35 per  $\frac{1}{2}$  bushel basket in city markets; sixes \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Macon. North and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$260-\$415 bulk per car on auction sales in New York City; Dixie Belles \$50-\$125 f.o.b. Macon, Ga.

Average price Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets was unchanged at 12.55¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price was 10.36¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange were unchanged at 12.76¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 1 point to 12.74¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 25 cents; 91 Score, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 90 Score, 24 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh No. 1 American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13-14 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; S.Daisies, 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ -13 cents; Y.Americas, 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ -13 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 20-23 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Standards, 19-19 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Firsts, 17-17 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

- - - - -



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 22

Section 1

July 27, 1934

## ECONOMIC PROGRAM

Grouping social insurance systems, relief and Government-provided work in a well-rounded Federal program, the President's Committee on Economic and Social Security yesterday began its broad study of a new economic horizon. Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins announced the appointment of Edwin E. Witte, University of Wisconsin economic professor, and chief of the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Library, as "production manager" of the committee. Emphasis on prevention of economic hazards rather than the care of its victims, is embodied in the preliminary program of study. Miss Perkins said that the program differs from the European method in "seeking to prevent social security hazards. That approach, I believe, is typical of the American mind." (Press.)

## CROPS AND WEATHER

Rain and cooling breezes yesterday broke the intense heat which had held most of the nation in its grip for a week and had claimed the lives of 1,361 victims. Generally cooler temperatures were reported in all sections and there was an abrupt leveling off in the number of deaths. While moisture afforded some temporary relief to parched land, crop experts said much additional rain must fall to afford any permanent benefits to the great agricultural producing areas. They added that in numerous sections no amount of rain at this time could help, as the crops were virtually a total loss. (A.P.)

## DAKOTA FARMERS

The Federal Reclamation Bureau's proposal for wholesale evacuation of drought regions got the cold shoulder yesterday in the area it is designed to benefit, says a Pierre (S.Dak.) report to the Associated Press. Recently Dr. Elwood Mead, reclamation commissioner, said that "tens of thousands of persons must be moved from the drought-stricken western half of the Dakotas and the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains". Gov. Tom Berry, of South Dakota, said: "In my opinion the spirit of the people of South Dakota is still loyal to the soil of the State, and investigations of drought-stricken families disclosed determination to fight it out."

## HAYING EMPLOYMENT

The Federal Government is mapping out a plan to "make hay while the sun shines" by placing thousands of men now on relief rolls to work harvesting hay in vacant fields to aid in stamping out a shortage in livestock feed. The FERA said that State administrators had been requested to report on the advisability of gathering in grass and weeds that would ordinarily go to waste. (Press.)

## DROUGHT IN CHINA

Serious famine conditions due to a severe drought that has burned up crops are facing millions of Chinese peasants, according to a Nanking cable to the New York Times. The entire provinces of Anhwei, Kiangsu, Chekiang and large sections of Hupeh are drought stricken, while many districts of North China and South China are flood stricken.



Farm Buying  
Power

"Smart sales managers who dig deeper than the business index for the country as a whole are finding significant regional differences in conditions shown up in the latest reports from the individual Federal Reserve Districts," says Business Week (July 12). "Most impressive contrast is between the lively signs of improvement in the agrarian Middle West and South and the sagging tendencies in the East and along the Great Lakes. Increases in farm purchasing power, due to rising farm prices, benefit and relief payments, continue to push sales in the open country well above the national average. Results are reflected in news from the mail order houses that catch the rural response. June sales for Sears, Roebuck and Montgomery Ward beat 1933 records by 25.5 percent and 19.6 percent respectively. May increases over 1933 went higher--30.6 percent for Sears and 37.3 percent for Ward--but the June comparison takes in the start of 1933's abortive 'boom'...Or take department store sales. To be sure, June sales are lower than May but the average increase for the country as a whole is 9 percent over June last year. The Federal Reserve Districts in the agrarian country, Dallas, Kansas City, St. Louis, Atlanta, and Richmond, have increases well above the country average...More complete figures coming later will probably show that when the Minneapolis district is broken down into department stores of the larger and smaller cities, the smaller cities, receiving their trade from the rural country, will be shown to have much higher sales than the strictly urban centers..."

Cattle  
Migration

Kansas farmers started this week on the greatest cattle drive in the history of the State, says a Wichita report to the New York Times. It is estimated that more than 200,000 cattle will be moved within the next week or ten days from farms in practically all sections of the State where water and feed supplies are rapidly becoming exhausted. Unless the cattle can be moved promptly hundreds will die from thirst and hunger. Until last week Kansas farmers had been unwilling to sell their cattle at Government prices under the drought relief program. Now the drought is forcing them to move the animals, which they are doing at a rate of 1,000 a day. They have asked that their quota this week be tripled. Since comparatively few of these animals can be sold within the next week they must be moved immediately to some other section where feed and water are available. The situation is so serious that the Kansas City Livestock Exchange has broadcast a statement urging farmers to withhold shipments.

German  
Industry

"The phantom blockade imposed on Germany by her shrinking exports and vanishing gold reserve is beginning to cripple German industry," says Otto D. Tolishhus in the New York Times (July 21). "The Reich Ministry of Economics was compelled today to issue a decree placing most of the textile industry on a 36-hour week. The decree frankly states that the reason for this drastic step is the growing shortage of foreign raw materials, imports of which must be curtailed for lack of cash or credit...Another decree issued recently puts the entire rubber trade under Government control and forces the tire industry to form a compulsory cartel..."



Foreign Trade            In contrast with Germany, France and England, which have  
Balance            net payments to make on merchandise imports and on total current transactions as well, says the June bulletin of the Federal Reserve Board, the United States has a balance on international payments characterized by a substantial surplus in both respects. From May through September, 1933, however, there was a small excess of merchandise imports and total current transactions appear to have involved a net payment to foreigners, even making allowances for some uncertainty in the estimates of invisible items, it says. During this period the export of capital from this country was a factor in the decline of the exchange value of the dollar; but inward movements of capital at the lower rate for the dollar balances the account. In the fall a substantial excess of merchandise exports again developed and has continued until the present time. (Press.)

Exposition            Nature (London) for July 14, says: "...If the first need  
of Science            in the exposition of science is an understanding of the audience and of the range of experience and knowledge of that audience, the choice of appropriate terms for that exposition comes a close second. Few things have done more to hinder the spread of accurate scientific knowledge than the widespread indifference of the man of science in this respect. It is no uncommon experience to encounter scientific papers in which the authors have made so little attempt to define their terms that their meaning is almost incomprehensible even to other specialists in that field. What is required, however, is not the evasion of the real issue by use of more or less accurate analogies or elaborate circumlocution which we frequently find in popular writers on scientific and technical subjects. It is rather the setting of trained minds to the evaluation of the facts and their expression in terms understood by the general community. This is no impossible task. Its possibility was demonstrated by Faraday, Clerk Maxwell, Huxley and many others who wrote strong, simple and beautiful English. It does demand, however, much more accurate thinking and more precision in the choice of words than are commonly to be found among scientific workers. The elimination of jargon, and the loose thinking which it connotes, from our scientific and technical journals, would be a first step in furtherance of the work of exposition and education. The strange contrast between the precision of experimental work, and the slovenliness and ambiguity with which its results are sometimes expressed, is a stumbling block which must be removed before the education of the community in this way can proceed apace or the scientific worker discharge his responsibilities of leadership..."

French Vineyards       France is going to have another wonderful wine year if the present weather holds, says a Paris report to the New York Times (July 11). Last year was a "vintage" year of a high order--the first since 1929--and no one dared hope for two such years in succession. Yet, reports from many districts, and above all from Champagne, are highly encouraging. The wine harvests are only three months off and the weather has been ideal. The dry spring, which has been bad for farmers in general, has favored the vines and has caused a comparative absence of parasitical pests.



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

July 26--Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.07-1/8-\$1.11-1/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\* Minneap. \$1.07<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-\$1.11<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; No. 2 Hd.Wr. K.C. 98-99<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Chi. \$1.01<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-1.02<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; St.Louis \$1.01<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-1.03; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis 97-97<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; No. 1 W.Wh.Portland 80¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 73-1/8-76-1/8¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 67-67<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; St.Louis 67¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 65-67¢ (Nom); No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 44<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-44<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>¢; K.C. 45<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-47<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Chi. 43<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-44¢; St.Louis 44<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-45<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 95-97¢; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.86-1.91.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.25-1.85 per stove barrels in city markets; \$1-1.05 f.o.b. Eastern Shore points. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 80¢-\$1 per 100 pounds in the East. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.40-1.50 in Cincinnati. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes \$1.50-2.75 per six-basket crate in consuming centers; \$1-1.25 f.o.b. Macon. South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$280-395 bulk per car on auction sales in New York City; Dixie Belles \$50-\$130 f.o.b. Macon. New Jersey Yellow onions brought 90¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in eastern cities. East Shore Virginia yellows \$1-\$2 in a few markets.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 4 points to 12.51¢ per pound. On the same day last year the price was 10.63¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 12.72¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 8 points to 12.66¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 25 cents; 91 Score, 24<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents; 90 Score, 24<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13-14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents; Daisies, 12<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-13 cents; Y.Americas, 12<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-13 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 20<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-23<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents; Standards, 20 cents; Firsts, 17<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein

THERE ARE NO QUOTATIONS ON LIVESTOCK

- - - - -



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 23

Section 1

July 28, 1934

## WATER

### CONSERVATION

The midwest drought was cited yesterday by Dr. Elwood Mead, reclamation commissioner, as striking evidence of need for an extensive, planned water conservation program, according to the Associated Press. "Plans may be worked out in conjunction with drought relief plans of the FERA," Dr. Mead suggested, adding that he had conferred with authorities in more than half the arid States regarding water conservation plans.

## PUERTO RICO

### LAND PLAN

Chancellor Carlos E. Chardon of the University of Puerto Rico made public last night a section of the report of the Puerto Rico policy committee in which "the committee recommends basic changes in land policy, providing for the progressive reduction of large land holdings for redistribution to the present landless as the first step in a large homesteading program." Subject to the approval of Washington, funds would be provided largely from the proceeds of the sugar processing tax. Not all of the policy committee's report was made public. The parts undisclosed, it is reported, deal with other phases of the island's economic and social life, for the improvement of which the committee also makes specific suggestions. (New York Times.)

## CHILEAN

### CROPS

Because of low stocks of wheat throughout Chile, the government is taking steps to make purchases abroad, principally in Argentina, it was announced yesterday. Figures were issued revealing that relatively small areas had been sown to wheat, and poor crops from those areas are expected because of heavy rains. Excessive exports are another factor in the situation. (New York Times.)

## EMPLOYMENT

### FIGURES

An increase in public works reduced the total of those out of work in June to 8,499,000, William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, said yesterday. The May figure was 8,577,000. Government relief projects employed 1,813,000 in June. Those unable to find work in normal pursuits totaled 10,312,000 as compared with 10,122,000 in October. (Press.)

## MANUFACTURING

### DECREASE

Manufacturing decreased 2.4 percent in June on the basis of total man hours worked, it was shown yesterday by the monthly survey covering reports from 25 industries made by the National Industrial Conference Board. Employment decreased 2.1 percent and total payroll disbursements dropped 2.6 percent, the first decrease in those two indices since November 1933. (Press.)



## Section 2

Australian Research                      G. V. Jacks, writing in Nature (London) for July 14 on research in Australia and New Zealand, says: "...The report of the (Australian) Council for Scientific and Industrial Research for the past year, although not recording any outstanding new results of research, gives some striking figures illustrating the cash returns that have been, and may be obtained from the application of scientific research to agriculture in Australia. Thus the complete solution of the problem of 'bitter pit' in apples--a disease found to be associated with immaturity at picking time--has resulted in a saving of 100,000 pounds per annum to the Australian export trade. Root rots and smut of wheat cause losses of more than 1,000,000 pounds a year, and already considerable progress has been made in controlling these diseases. Great strides have in the past been made in the field of plant breeding, and have enabled Australia to become one of the chief wheat producing countries of the world, and it is pointed out that further work which might result in an average increase in quality equal to a penny a bushel would bring in an annual return of 1,000,000 pounds. Even at the present low price of wheat, an increased yield of a bushel an acre would mean more than 3,000,000 pounds added to the value of the Australian crop. It is true that many of these savings have yet to be made, but it is already obvious that the council is paying very satisfactory dividends on its annual expenditure of about 100,000 pounds..."

Mid-South Farming                      "Visions of 15-cent cotton, in addition to millions in acreage-reduction checks that have been flowing from Washington within the last six weeks, have brought the mid-South farmer back to pre-depression conditions, with prospects ahead of the greatest fall business since 1930," says Thomas Fauntleroy in editorial correspondence to the New York Times (July 20). "Aside from the unusually active market and the government checks, the farmers of the rich alluvial empire, of which Memphis is the capital, see their broad acres blossoming with the finest cotton crop within the memory of many of them. Weather conditions have been ideal. The vigor and freshness of the plants have attracted weevil in many communities; in fact, the emergence this year in the Arkansas and Mississippi deltas is above normal, but the planters came through last year with a nice profit and have been able this year to buy poison and spread it on their cotton. The mid-South farmers are not gloating over any advantage they may have in going beyond the quota allowed them by the government. They hope merely to reach that quota. If and when they do, with the drought in Texas and Oklahoma seriously cutting down the yield there, the mid-South planter sees a short crop and high prices, and since the delta cotton sells at a premium of from 2 to 4 cents, prospects of a splendid return are in sight..."

Dissipation of Fog                      Fog, the deadliest menace to the aviator and the mariner, has been overcome, in the belief of a group of scientists. A chemical dissipation of fog over limited areas was tried by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at the Round Hill Research Station in South Dartmouth, Mass. for the first time recently. Three minutes after

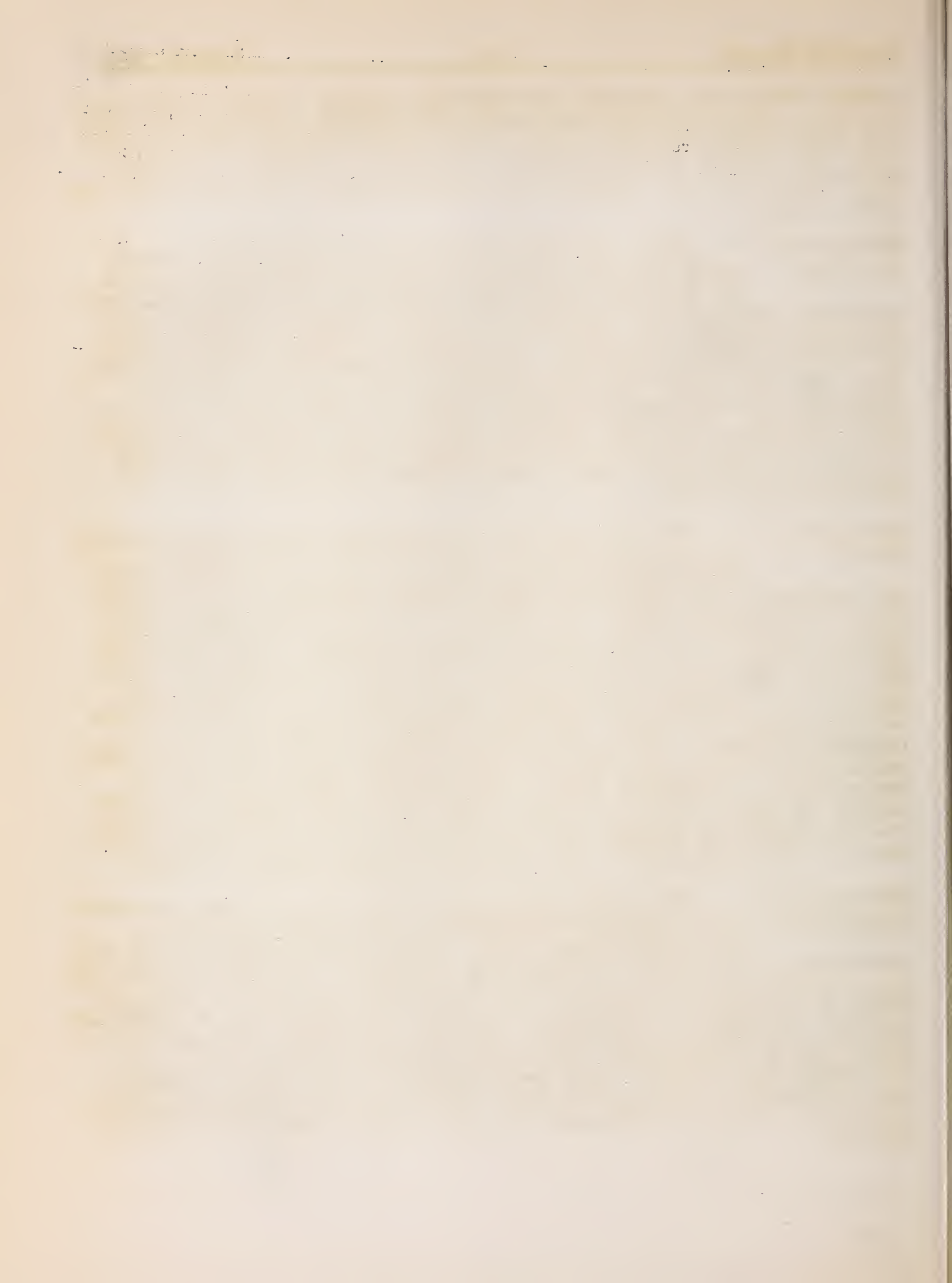


nozzles fitted into a pipe 300 feet long began pouring a secret liquid chemical into a rolling fog which had enveloped the airport, buildings 2,000 feet away stood clearly revealed against a background of turbulent walls of white vapor. The chemical employed possesses the ability to collect or condense water vapor in the air, causing it to be precipitated to the ground like raindrops. (A.P.)

**Raw Materials** Fresh indication that Germany is being forced into absolute rationing of raw materials on a basis second only to in Germany the World War period came recently with the announcement that a special commission will "control" the available supply of vegetable oils and animal fats and will regulate the production of soap, reports an Associated Press dispatch from Berlin. Practically every phase of German industrial life now is under organized restrictions that are being gradually tightened to strangulating pressure as imports of needed raw materials are being curtailed. The latest "control board" will be of special importance, it is anticipated, since oils and fats constitute the present outstanding problem of the third Reich when it comes to "self sufficiency" against the remainder of the world.

**World Wheat** The statement that the world wheat demand during the crop year beginning August 1 would take care of the supply was attacked recently by Andrew Cairns, Canadian wheat trade expert and secretary of the International Wheat Advisory Commission, says a London report to the Canadian Press. Mr. Cairns, in a letter to The London Times, declared this estimate by Sir Herbert Robson, president of the London Corn Trade Association, was wide of the mark. Sir Herbert had figured the probable demand from Europe and extra-European countries would be 560,000,000 bushels, and he computed the available export supply in the coming 12 months as being around this figure. Mr. Cairns, however, declared the latest information available at the wheat commission secretariat was that total world stocks of wheat on August 1 would be approximately 1,120,000,000 bushels, compared with the 1922-1928 average of about 620,000,000 bushels, the normal figure. He said he hoped for a world demand for imported wheat in 1934-35 of about 600,000,000 bushels. The difference between the two figures may be taken as a fair indication of the magnitude of surplus stocks, he added.

**Food Prices in** Filling the family market basket has been made more costly Drought Areas by the drought which has been devastating a large part of America, a United Press survey showed. Prices are advancing and they will continue to go up, grocers and wholesalers predicted. The fresh vegetable supply in hundreds of communities has been drastically reduced. The survey of cities in the midwest shows prices on the climb in all sections. In Dallas the increase since May 1 was estimated at from 5 to 10 percent. In Omaha it ranged from 20 to 25 percent. Beef prices advanced everywhere except in a few packing house centers. Bread prices remained fairly stable, although a wide difference in prices was revealed. Flour, however, was costing more and a new price advance was indicated in the near future. (Wall Street Journal, July 26.)





# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 24

Section 1

July 30, 1934

## EXPORT-IMPORT BANKS PLAN

Operations of the second export-import bank, created to aid in the financing of trade with other countries, were extended yesterday under authorization of President Roosevelt to cover the world at large, with the exception of Russia. Heretofore the bank's facilities had been limited to an interchange of trade with Cuba. Transactions with Soviet Russia, which are held up pending the conclusion of diplomatic negotiations looking to a debt agreement, are to be taken care of by the first export-import bank for Russia. (Press.)

## STOCK YARDS STRIKE

Threat of a general strike hung last night over the packing industry in Chicago as the Union Stock Yards remained paralyzed by the stock handlers' walkout, which began Monday, says a report to the Associated Press. William Collins, organizer of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers Workmen of North America, conferred with John Gorman, president of the strikers, but withheld immediate decision on a sympathetic walkout. He has authority to call out his 8,400 members without a vote of the local union. Efforts by the Chicago Regional Labor Board and conciliators of the Department of Labor to settle the dispute have reached an impasse.

## FARM LOANS

A report that the Federal Land Banks and the land bank/ commissioner had loaned \$390,000,000 in the last three months was made yesterday by Gov. William I. Myers of the Farm Credit Administration. This statement, showing the volume almost equal to the \$420,000,000 loaned in January, February and March, was interpreted in some quarters as an answer to outspoken beliefs that the Frazier-Lemke farm mortgage moratorium act would cause farmers to lose interest in paying their privately funded mortgage debts. At Berkeley (Calif.) Governor Myers said he looked for further improvement in the condition of agriculture in the near future. "Everybody associated with me in the Administration has great faith in the integrity of the American farmer and his determination to pay the debts he has incurred with the several agencies of the Administration." (A.P.)

## SOUTHERN NEWSPRINT

The newsprint committee of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association, meeting at Nashville Saturday, made arrangements whereby plans for the construction of a newsprint mill in the South will "proceed at once". Dr. Charles H. Herty, director of the Pulp and Paper Laboratory of the Industrial Committee of Savannah, Inc., the chemist whose research led to the manufacture of newsprint from southern pine, attended the meeting. (New York Times.)

## TYPHOID FEVER

Typhoid fever is stalking through the sun-baked states in the drought area, the United States/ Public Health Service announced last night, according to a copyright report by the United Press. Reports from state health authorities showed 1,128 new sufferers in the past 8 weeks. It was emphasized that the malady has not reached the form of an epidemic.



## Section 2

Oat Breeding            "The successful production of a new cereal variety is an important matter in these days when so many desirable qualities have to be combined," says Country Life (England) for July 14. "Considerable interest therefore attaches to the latest product of the Cambridge University Plant Breeding Institute. This is a new white oat, named Resistance, which possesses a number of unique qualities. The product of a cross between the long-established Grey Winter and an Argentine oat, Resistance possesses a straw that is remarkably clean and stiff...It is being especially introduced for those who have soils in high fertility on which many of the present varieties tend to lodge. It is also valuable for the fact that it can be sown in either autumn or spring. The economic significance of the new oat in this respect can be better appreciated from the fact that in the winter-sown oat trials carried out by the National Institute of Agricultural Botany in 1931-32 and 1932-33 it yielded 32 percent more than Grey Winter oats. In the spring oat trials in 1933 it gave slightly higher yields of grain than Victory, the control variety..."

Department            The Government is experimenting with some 275 species of  
Bamboo Work            bamboo on a farm on the Ogeechee River because of a developing American taste for chop suey and many other things for which the canes can be used, says an Associated Press report from Savannah. Around \$2,000,000 worth of bamboo is imported by the United States each year and its uses are so manifold that the Office of Plant Introduction of the Department of Agriculture decided it might be well to find out what economic species are best adapted to this country. From the grove, which is part of a 46-acre farm known as the Barbour Plant Introduction Garden, are being shipped canes for experiments in paper making, the manufacture of toothbrush handles, yacht masts and booms, flag poles, plant stakes, fishing poles, radio aerials, furniture, ladders and various other purposes. One of the <sup>increasingly</sup> important and recent uses in America has been the use of bamboo shoots, or the plant that has just come up out of the ground. The shoots, sliced, peeled, boiled and served in butter sauce have been among the favorite and expensive vegetables of the Orient. Americans took to them at once.

Land Plant            Aquatic flowers in a strictly land plant is the botanical  
Under Water            paradox described by Dr. Alexander F. Skutch, American botanist working in Guatemala. The flowers of one species of the plant known as Heliconia develop totally submerged in a pool of water held within the tight-fitting fleshy leaves just below the flower cluster. In this pool of water the buds develop, protected from the surrounding fluid by equally tight-fitting petals. When the time for pollination comes, the tips of the flowers are above the surface of the water. Humming birds serve instead of bees or other insects as the agency of pollen dissemination. Following their visit, the fruit starts to develop, also submerged. When the fruit is ripe, it is carried above the water by the elongation of its stalk. (Science Service, July 6.)



Midwest  
Farmers

J. F. Essary, in a report from Mandan, South Dakota, to the Baltimore Sun (July 25) says: "There are people--some of whom live in these parts--who despair of the Dakotas as a rich farming area or as a place to make a decent living, whether by raising wheat or anything else. Such people are loaded with ominous facts and entertain even more ominous views regarding the future of the region. They look at the drought-devastated area and weep. Nor can anyone blame them, for it is an appalling visitation. I have seen some of it myself. They see what was once the greatest spring wheat country in the world transformed into a veritable desert, and they ask if it would not be just as well to declare these millions of acres marginal land, abandon them, turn them back to buffalo grass and find farms elsewhere for the few hundred thousand homesteaders. They see the top soil so dry that the wind whips it into great blinding, suffocating clouds which drift over hundreds, even thousands, of miles, and which on occasion pile vast mounds of migratory soil here, there and elsewhere as though it were snow or the sands of the Sahara. They look deeper and find that their sub-soil moisture has been reduced to the vanishing point--ten, twenty, thirty feet beneath the surface--and that even trees which reach far down for their food are dying in almost every quarter..."

New Low  
Temperature

A new low temperature approaching absolute zero (459.6 degrees below, Farenheit) has been reached at Leyden, according to an announcement made recently by Prof. W. L. DeHaas and Dr. E. C. Wiersma of the University of Leyden. The temperature reached was 0.03 of 1 degree Kelvin above absolute zero, which is believed to be the lowest temperature ever reached. It was obtained by a specially constructed apparatus. Experiments last year at the University of California succeeded in attaining a temperature of 459.1 below zero, Farenheit, through the use of a magnetic cycle process developed by Prof. W. E. Glauque. (New York Times, July 25.)

International  
Trade in 1933

A year of confused and unusual tendencies in international trade--1933--was summed up by the Commerce Department as resulting in a favorable American balance of \$210,000,000 on ordinary goods and services, but a loss to this country of \$412,000,000 in short-term credit. The period saw the depression reach its lowest point, with the banking panic of February, and the subsequent abandonment of the gold standard, followed by wide and rapid fluctuations in foreign exchange values. Accompanying these disruptions were numerous trade and tariff restrictions the world over. (A.P.)

## Rural Schools

Normal schools must modify their curricula to meet the demands of rural schools which have only one or two teachers, according to a report by Prof. Fannie Dunn of Columbia University at the final session of a conference on the education of teachers at Teachers College. About 65,000 new teachers are needed annually in one and two teacher schools in this country. "It is only in small rural schools that graduates of state normal schools and teachers colleges are finding positions in considerable numbers at present," Prof. Dunn said. (Press.)



## Section 3

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

July 27--Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.08-1/8-\$1.12-1/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.09-1.13; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. 99 1/2-\$1.00 1/2; Chi. \$1.02-1.03 1/4; St.Louis \$1.02; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis 97-97 3/4¢; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 80 1/2¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 73-76¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 67 3/4-68 1/4¢; St.Louis 67 1/2-68¢; No. 3 yellow Chi. 66 1/4-66 3/4¢; St.Louis 66 1/2-67 1/2¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 44 1/2-45¢; K.C. 46-47 1/2¢; Chi. 43 1/2-45 3/4¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 95-97¢; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.86 1/2-1.91 1/2.

Virginia Cobbler potatoes \$1.15-1.85 per stave barrel in eastern city markets; \$1-\$1.10 f.o.b. East Shore points. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 80¢-\$1.10 per 100 pounds in the East. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.50-1.75 in Cincinnati. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes, \$1.25-2.50 per six-basket crate in consuming centers; \$1.25-\$1.50 f.o.b. Macon. South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$250-395 bulk per car, auction sales in New York City; Dixie Belles 24-26 pounds \$40-\$157 f.o.b. Macon. New Jersey yellow onions brought 90¢-\$1.10 per 50-pound sack in New York City; Massachusetts stock 90¢-\$1.10 in the East.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 14 points to 12.65¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price was 10.22¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 14 points to 12.86¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 17 points to 12.83¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 25 cents; 91 Score, 24 1/2 cents; 90 Score, 24 1/4 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13-14 1/2 cents; S.Daisies, 13-13 1/4 cents; Y.Americas, 13-13 1/4 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 21-24 cents; Standards, 20 1/2 cents; Firsts, 18 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

## NO LIVESTOCK QUOTATIONS

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 25

Section 1

July 31, 1934

## INTERNATIONAL SUGAR MEETING

The international sugar conference opened with an important meeting at Brussels yesterday, during which the fate of the Chadbourne agreement was under consideration, says a report to the New York Times. There is much opposition to a renewal of the accord reached in May 1932, which is now expiring, but indications were that it would be tried out for another year. The chief obstacle is the demand of Java producers for a larger export quota, which Cuban and several European delegations are opposing.

## SAVINGS DEPOSITS

Mutual savings banks of the country report the greatest number of depositors on record since the system was started more than 100 years ago, according to Philip A. Benson, president of the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks. The banks, which operate in 18 States, report, as of June 30, a total of 13,686,947 depositors. The gain since January 1 was 273,898 depositors, whereas the gain for the previous six months was 109,496. New York leads with an increase of 184,107, followed by Pennsylvania with 22,974 and Connecticut with 21,888. "The continued increase in accounts can mean only that the average man and woman is financially better off," says Mr. Benson. "In our institutions we always measure the trend by the number of accounts rather than total deposits, but we had a substantial gain in both for the half year." (Press.)

## RURAL RELIEF

Two surveys, one to establish the best methods of rehabilitating rural families on relief and the other to ascertain for the Federal Government what share of relief costs the States may reasonably be expected to pay during the coming year, have been undertaken by the Federal Emergency Relief Administration. Corrington Gill, assistant administrator in charge of research and statistics, who is acting relief administrator in the absence of Harry L. Hopkins, said that the survey to determine the best and most rapid method of returning to self-support rural families now on relief would disregard State lines in covering six rural areas where there is an unusually high percentage of people on relief, where common problems are presented and where preliminary studies indicate some permanent factors in the present plight. (New York Times.)

## INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE

President Roosevelt has informed officials that after he returns to Washington he intends to call a conference of leading industrialists to discuss plans which he has long cherished for the decentralization of industry. This decentralization aims at the gradual transfer of many factory units from congested city areas to semi-rural surroundings. The subsistence homestead experimentation carried on by the administration has this in mind. Along with it goes giving men who will work at the transplanted factories an opportunity to own their homes and raise food for their own use. (A.P.)



## Section 2

Highways                      Roads and Road Construction (England) for July 2, com-  
Research                      menting editorially on road research, says: "...We have before  
                                us the report of the Department of Scientific and Industrial  
Research for the year 1932-33. Anyone who doubts the value of research to  
industry would do well to study this report carefully, and if he remains a  
sceptic he deserves to be given up as a lost soul. It is stated, for example,  
that the work of the Electrical Research Association has already effected  
savings in that industry to the tune of not less than 1,000,000 pounds per an-  
num, at a total cost of 80,000 pounds. The Iron and Steel Industrial Research  
Council has completed investigations having a potential value of more than  
1,700,000 pounds per annum at an equally negligible cost; and examples could  
be multiplied. The impression one gets, indeed, is that in many instances  
the results obtained have been so phenomenally great as to outstrip, for the  
time being, the capacity of industry to take advantage of them. In road re-  
search, on the other hand, this is far from being the case. Instead of supply  
exceeding demand, demand very obviously exceeds supply. It is a situation  
which calls for the immediate employment of the best brains and scientific  
equipment...The decision to bring road research into the general organization  
of the Department of Scientific and Industrial research is a step in the right  
direction..."

Humidity and                      Humidity is nature's greatest aid to man in his efforts  
Forest Fires                      to prevent and control forest fires, a recent survey shows,  
                                and lack of humidity outranks scanty rainfall and high winds  
as the greatest enemy of the fire fighter. These are the findings of Prof.  
Daniel R. Bergsmark of the Department of Geography, University of Wisconsin,  
who studied the effects of relative humidity on forest fires at the Lake  
States Forestry Experiment Station. Records of prevalence of forest fires  
in times of great drought, such as during recent months, have aided Professor  
Bergsmark in his investigations. "Studies conducted by the Wind River Forest  
Experiment Station, Wisconsin, showed that fires did not spread when the rela-  
tive humidity was above 80 percent," he explains. "They spread very slowly  
and only in very favorable material when the relative humidity was between 50  
and 60 percent. When the humidity was between 40 and 50 percent, fires in-  
creased. With a humidity of 30 to 40 percent, fires gained some headway, and  
some rapidly spreading fires occurred. A humidity below 30 percent caused  
fires to spread beyond control. Crown fires occurred when the humidity dropped  
to 25 percent or lower." Similar relations between humidity and fire condi-  
tions have been found after observations in such typical forest areas as Con-  
necticut and Idaho, according to Professor Bergsmark. (A.P.)

Insect Life and                      Insects, like other classes of animals, are fatally af-  
Temperatures                      fected by prolonged exposure to temperatures over 104 de-  
                                grees, and the Mediterranean fruit fly is no exception, ac-  
cording to Drs. Hugh H. Darby and E. M. Kapp, formerly entomologists with the  
U.S. Department of Agriculture. All stages of the fly are adversely affected  
by that temperature, they say, with adults and young pupae being all killed  
in less than 7 hours and the old pupae and larvae in 13 and 17 hours, respectivel;



The other extreme is also fatal, the young pupae dying in 15 days at 40 degrees and in about 30 days at 50 degrees. The temperature of 104 degrees is critical for many types of animals, the entomologists point out, with the lethal effect of the heat being more pronounced as the temperature advances. They point out that "race death", as well as death of the individual, must be considered. Race death is accomplished short of actual death to the insect itself but at the same time preventing reproduction. If this is accomplished, naturally the race dies. (Science Service, July 9.)

Employment                      The total number of unemployed workers in June 1934 was.  
Figures                      7,934,000, according to an estimate of the National Industrial  
Conference Board. This is an increase of 89,000 or 1.1 per-  
cent from May 1934, and a decline of 5,269,000 or 39.9 percent from the total  
in March 1933, when unemployment was at its highest point. The increase in  
unemployment from May to June was the first increase since January 1934. Of  
the total increase, 37,000 occurred in manufacturing and mechanical indus-  
tries, 60,000 in trade and 2,000 in extraction of minerals. In transporta-  
tion there was a decline in unemployment of 34,000. (Press.)

Soviet Harvest                    "The struggle which is producing this year's Soviet harvest in the face of an early drought is of a nature and intensity probably never before seen in the world," says Harold Denny in the New York Times (July 25). "There is nothing haphazard about it, nothing left to chance. It was organized and is being carried through like a military offensive. Plans were drawn last winter in Moscow, where an indomitable will and several very shrewd brains are at work in the Kremlin. These plans were transmitted to the autonomous republics, and within them, as an army corps, through regional authorities, machine tractor stations, heads of collective and state farms on down to the 'buck private' peasant in the field. Even within collective farms the military simile is pat. The farm workers, usually numbering several hundred, are divided into brigades of 75 to 100 men and women, each under the command of a brigadier. These in turn are divided into 'links' of 5 workers often composed of friends or kinsfolk, headed by a 'link' leader. At intervals this summer decrees directing how the attack was to be pushed home have been issued from the Kremlin like battle orders from general headquarters..."

Combines in The Field (London) for June 30 reports that last year England "48 combine harvesters were used in England and some remarkable work was done. Some records are quoted in the Journal of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society. One machine harvested 380 sacks of wheat in 2 days from about 40 acres, and was stopped early the second day because the barn was full. In Linconshire 3 combines cut 1,070 acres, one of the machines doing its fourth year's work, accounting for 485 acres, having no breakdowns and costing nothing for repairs. Another machine on hilly ground in Wiltshire cut 400 acres at harvest time. The cost of combining has been estimated at about half that of ordinary harvesting."



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

July 30--Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.11½-\$1.15½; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.12¾-1.16¾; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.03½-\$1.04; Chi. \$1.03½-\$1.05½; St.Louis \$1.05-1.05½; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis 98½¢-\$1.00; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 84¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 77-80¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 71½-72¾¢; St.Louis 71-71½¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 68-69¾¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 45½-46¼¢; K.C. 46-5/8-48¾¢; Chi. 44-47½¢; St.Louis 45¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 96-98¢; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.88-\$1.93.

East Shore Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.10-\$2 per stave barrel in eastern cities. Maryland Cobblers \$1.25-\$2 in city markets. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 85¢-\$1 per 100 pounds in the East. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$2-\$2.25 carlot sales in Chicago. North Carolina Elberta peaches, all sizes, ranged \$1.37½-\$2.40 per bushel basket in eastern cities; \$1.50 f.o.b. Candor. Georgia Elbertas \$1.62½-\$2 per six basket crate in a few cities; \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Macon. Massachusetts Yellow varieties of onions ranged 90¢-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in a few cities. East Shore Virginia yellows 65¢-\$1.15 in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. Iowa stock 75¢-\$1 in the Middle West. North and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$250-405 bulk per car, auction sales in New York City; Dixie Belles \$75-\$125 f.o.b. Macon.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 21 points to 12.92¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 9.74¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 20 points to 13.13¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 24 points to 13.11¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 25¼ cents; 91 Score, 24¾ cents; 90 Score, 24¼ cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13½-14½ cents; S.Daisies, 13½ cents; Y.Americas, 13½ cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 21½-24½ cents; Standards, 20½-21 cents; Firsts, 18-18¼ cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

- - - - -



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 26

Section 1

August 1, 1934

**TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS** Political and economic questions have eliminated at least six nations, including some of our best customers, from immediate consideration in negotiations for new reciprocal trade agreements. An authoritative source disclosed yesterday that the State Department and the President's tariff bargaining committee have no plans for instituting negotiations in the near future with Great Britain, Germany, Soviet Russia, Canada, Argentina and Austria. Sweden, Portugal and several other European nations still are under consideration. Brazil and a bloc of Latin-American nations, producing 95 percent of American coffee imports, are scheduled for new reciprocal agreements as quickly as the Cuban agreement, now nearing completion, is finished. (A.P.)

**U.S. STEEL CORPORATION** The United States Steel Corporation yesterday reported earnings for the three months ended June 30 larger than for any quarterly period since the last quarter of 1930. Total earnings, after ordinary manufacturing expenses, amounted to \$21,082,389, compared with \$6,578,731 in the preceding quarter. Payrolls increased sharply, compared with a year ago, amounting to \$65,094,000 for the quarter, compared with only \$33,468,000 in the same period of last year. (A.P.)

**TRADE REPORT** A normal recession in volume of trade occurred in the Fifth Federal Reserve District between June 1 and the middle of July. although business generally was considerably above levels prevailing in the corresponding 1933 period, the Richmond Federal Reserve Bank announced yesterday. Agricultural prospects were reported varied in the district, some crops having excellent prospects while others appear to be backward. Generally speaking, acreage planted in money crops has been reduced, while acreage in food and feed crops has been materially increased. (A.P.)

**FOOD PRICES** Retail food prices on July 17 were the highest since January 15, 1932, following another rise in the two weeks previously, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced yesterday. The index on July 17, based on 1913 averages, was 109.9, compared with 109.6, 109.1 and 108.4 in bi-weekly periods immediately preceding. "Retail food prices have shown an accumulated rise of 2 1/2 percent since April 24," said Commissioner Lubin. (New York Times.)

**RIVER RECORD** The Mississippi River set a new all-time low mark at Winona, Minnesota, yesterday when it receded to 2.5 feet below the low water mark established in 1864, says a report to the New York Times. The previous low mark was 2.48 below low water set September 1, 1933.



## Section 2

Shelter Belt  
of Trees

The Wall Street Journal (July 27), commenting editorially on the proposed shelter belt of trees in the drought area, says: "...Investigation proves that water erosion alone will in one year take as much fertility from the soil as the crops will in 21 years. On the treeless plains, winds now are adding to the previous work of water and top soil is being removed at an alarming rate. As every inch of that top soil represents nature's work of four or five centuries it can be seen how irreparable is the loss of any part of it, whether it be carried away by drainage and finally deposited in the sea, or is blown away by the winds. Trees not only form a windbreak and shelter but they are the great conservators of water, checking the runoff that causes erosion, and they also temper the atmosphere. The region to be traversed by the shelter belt averages about 18 inches of rainfall a year; a slight variation in the amount means the loss of crops and death of livestock. But the water supply can be increased and conserved by forestation. Forests keep the ground porous and thus the rainfall, instead of running off the surface and carrying away the finest of the soil particles, is absorbed. A forested area will absorb 40 or 50 times as much rainfall as will open country. This is reserve moisture which comes into use as needed; an unbelievable amount goes into the atmosphere through the leaves of the trees and eventually comes back to the earth as rain. These are some of the reasons why this broad forest belt is to be planted. It will not relieve the drought this year or next, but the next generation will receive its benefits..."

Radio Waves for  
Weather Maps

Lopping \$470,000 from the U.S. Bureau of Air Commerce expenditures, radio typewriters may soon give the skies a chance to replace 13,000 miles of leased telephone wires now used to send out weather maps, says Science News Letter (July 21). Because of the great saving a method of radio-typing would effect over present telegraphic costs contained in the Department of Commerce aeronautical bureau's \$4,000,000 appropriation, Rex Martin, Assistant Director of Air Navigation, and engineers under him are testing a new device for sending out weather forecasts. The radiotype transmitter resembles an ordinary typewriter. A key is punched and immediately radio wave impulses travel through the ether and cause the same letter to be struck at the receiving end. Seven and a half minutes were required to send out a complete weather map by the new method as compared to 15 minutes by telegraph. If experiments near Washington prove successful the Bureau of Air Commerce expects to provide stations every 50 miles along the 20,000 miles of airway over which flights are taking place daily. Anyone who had suitable receiving equipment could obtain weather information.

## Swamp Project

The Administration announced recently that Secretary Ickes had allocated \$109,200 for reclaiming two extensive swamp areas in the Virgin Islands, which form breeding places for the malaria mosquito. The work was urged by Governor Pearson as a step to control of malaria, which has become a serious problem in recent years. (New York Times.)



British  
Trade

Walter Runciman, president of the London Board of Trade, gave Commons recently a review of trade conditions which he said established the fact of "unmistakable revival", says a London cable to the New York Times (July 28). Nevertheless, he was not unduly optimistic about the future. Comparing the first six months of 1934 with the same months of 1933, he showed total exports had risen by 15,000,000 pounds. Wool, iron, steel and machinery had contributed substantially to this increase, but cotton had not, and he said he looked to plans now being discussed in Lancashire to remedy the defect. Taking the number of unemployed as a barometer of trade, he said there were cheerful signs as compared with a year ago, the jobless having fallen by 88,000 in engineering, the key industry. Referring to the British Government's part in a world full of government interference with trade, Mr. Runciman said where time permitted results to be shown, 13 trade agreements which the government had concluded had resulted in an increase in British exports. He particularly emphasized a new feature in some of the agreements which specifically linked British manufacturers with foreign consumers, such as the provision that Danish bacon should be wrapped in British jute. He said he hoped to extend these "purchase arrangements".

Texas  
Farming

Bewildered Texas ranchers and farmers face the possibility of standing almost empty handed at the end of the harvesting season, with more than 18,000,000 hungry cattle, sheep and angora goats to feed this fall and winter, says a Dallas report to the New York Times. There is not a major crop in the State that can produce an average yield, according to crop experts and farmers. Drought has been leaving its marks in almost every one of the 254 counties in the State. This includes the Texas cotton crop of nearly 11,000,000 acres, the largest acreage of any single State.

Food Values  
Aid Farmer

Farmers will be helped by the new knowledge scientists have gained about food values, vitamins and the like, said Prof. H. C. Sherman of Columbia University at the meeting of the American Home Economics Association. The importance of milk, fruit and vegetables in the diet is the specific discovery in nutrition which will aid the farmer. Knowledge of the value of these foods is gradually reaching the people and already is causing shifts in consumer demand among the different types of food. "There is sound health reason for and no sound economic reason against the growing prominence of the protective foods in the general food supply," he said. The protective foods to which Professor Sherman referred are milk, fruit, vegetables and eggs. He gave the following specific advice on diet: "I think it well to provide at least half of the needed calories in the form of the protective foods; and also that at least half of the breadstuffs and cereals used be in the 'whole grain' or 'dark' or 'unskimmed' forms. These two simple suggestions take account of all known nutritional needs." The place of eggs in the diet and the question of how much of the protective foods are needed to get the full benefit which they are capable of yielding are two points on which further research is needed, he said. (Science Service, June 23.)



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

July 31--Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.10 $\frac{1}{4}$ -\$1.14 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.15 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.02-\$1.02 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chi. \$1.04 $\frac{3}{4}$ -\$1.05; St.Louis \$1.05 $\frac{1}{2}$  $\phi$ ; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis 98-98 $\frac{1}{2}$  $\phi$ ; No. 1 W.Wh.Portland 83 $\phi$ ; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 76-3/8-79-3/8 $\phi$ ; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 71 $\frac{3}{4}$ -72 $\frac{1}{2}$  $\phi$ ; St.Louis 70 $\frac{3}{4}$  $\phi$ ; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 68 $\frac{3}{4}$ -69 $\frac{1}{2}$  $\phi$ ; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 45-1/8-46-1/8 $\phi$ ; K.C. 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ -48 $\phi$ ; Chi. 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ -47 $\phi$ ; St.Louis 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ -44 $\frac{3}{4}$  $\phi$ ; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 96-98 $\phi$ ; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.86 $\frac{3}{4}$ -1.91 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.15-2.25 per stave barrel in city markets. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 80 $\phi$ -90 $\phi$  per 100 pounds in a few cities. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$2.25 carlot sales in Chicago. North and South Carolina, 24-30 pound average, Tom Watson watermelons \$260-\$340 bulk per car on auction sales in New York City; Dixie Belles 24-28 pounds average, \$100-\$125 f.o.b. Macon. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes, \$1.75-\$2.25 per six basket crate in eastern cities; \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Macon. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions brought 90 $\phi$ -\$1.35 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers. New Jersey stock \$1 in New York City.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 8 points to 12.84 $\phi$  per lb. On the same day one year ago the price was 10.11 $\phi$ . October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 9 points to 13.04 $\phi$  and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 9 points to 13.02 $\phi$ .

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 91 Score, 25 cents; 90 Score, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; S.Daisies, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Y.Americas, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ -24 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Standards, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ -21 cents; Firsts, 18-18 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 27

Section 1

August 2, 1934

## SHIPPING SYSTEM

A new, far-flung system of international shipping between the Americas was inaugurated yesterday, says a Miami report to the Associated Press. Nearly 300 parcels left Miami by plane with the placing in effect of new arrangements by which 23,000 cities of the United States are joined by rail and air service with 23 countries and colonies of Latin America. Airways officials declared that all "red tape" previously required for international shipping has been eliminated down to one airway bill, which will take a package from any city in the United States to Miami by air or rail and thence to any of the 150 ports in the West Indies, Central and South America.

## CANADIAN TARIFF VIEW

Surprise and resentment were expressed in Canadian government circles yesterday over Washington dispatches stating that Canada from immediate political considerations in this country had eliminated consideration in the negotiation of new reciprocal trade agreements, says an Ottawa report to the New York Times. The reason given in Washington--that reciprocity was a political issue in Canada and that there was no expectation of active negotiations until it had been settled between the Dominion's political parties--was declared to be unsound.

## NORTHWEST FOREST FIRES

The fire menace clung tenaciously to the Northwest's forests last night, with five major fires reported raging out of control, says a Spokane dispatch to the Associated Press. The giant Curlew conflagration in the Colville forest of north central Washington was reported spreading before a heavy wind, adding hundreds of blackened acres to the 15,000 or more already covered. The fire is in isolated country, however, and lives and homes have not been menaced. Three fires in the Forest Service's No. 1 region still were out of control, but more than 1,000 fighters hoped to control them by tomorrow.

## TOBACCO PRICES

Marked improvement in prices over last year came in the first reports of the Georgia tobacco which went on sale yesterday at 15 south Georgia towns, according to a Valdosta (Ga.) report to the Associated Press. Tifton reported that the auction opened there with more than 500,000 pounds offered. The Tifton Gazette said an unofficial estimate placed the average price at 10 cents a pound over last year.

## NEW HEAT RECORDS

The heat wave, which took scores of lives in the Middle West and Southwest during July, moved into August yesterday, even burning new high temperature marks into the nights and making them stifling and sleepless. A blanket of high marks was spread over Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Iowa and Nebraska after parts of Kansas and Missouri had experienced one of the most unbearable nights in history. Emporia, Kansas, which had 26 days in July of 100 degrees or higher, reported 112 yesterday. (A.P.)



## Section 2

Effects of Drought                      The results of drought, says Business Week (July 28), are "not alone an agricultural problem. The cities are hard hit in a vital spot. Competent engineering investigators report water supply conditions in the drought area almost incredibly bad. At high-water season this year, some streams on which cities and town depend were at the usual fall low-water mark. Since then, they have dried up...Business is bound to suffer from the present situation. The cost of calamity on such a scale is inevitably great. But from calamity, through wise interpretation, we shall learn better to establish a sound, permanent basis for the nation. We shall also learn the limits of 'planned economy'. Ultimately, restoration and rebuilding of the agricultural economy of the drought area will be accomplished. A better, safer basis for farming and for stock raising will be established. As we face the distress of the moment it is reasonable to look beyond the problem in order that we may see the benefits from solution of these present and pressing troubles. Scientific agriculture, utilizing the skill of modern engineering for water supply and water control, will bring the nation through to the stable future. Though distress may be great, panic has no place in our national consideration of this catastrophe. There will be no famines..."

Electric Equipment                      A large potential field for the sale of all types of electrical machinery and appliances entering into residential construction was seen by the Department of Commerce in statistics on the use of electricity gathered from 63 cities. The analysis was prepared through the collection of data in all parts of the country by CWA workers. In the field of mechanical refrigeration, the 63 cities showed that 389,974 of the 2,313,955 residential units enumerated had mechanical refrigerators. The survey showed cooking is done by electricity in only 101,309 out of approximately 2,690,000 homes. Of 2,313,955 units, 229,924 used neither electricity nor gas for lighting and 279,649 used neither for cooking. Electricity holds the field for lighting while gas is still more widely used in the cooking field, the survey revealed. (Wall Street Journal, July 30.)

Chemistry and Medicine                      Sphere (August), in an article on "Our Chemical Industry--A Drama of Advance", says: "...No branch of chemistry is more important to our national welfare than the manufacture of medicinal and the development of new products in this field for the cure and prevention of disease. In this branch, the record of the industry is one of constant progress, with the addition of new products to our manufacturing lists, and in nearly all cases, price reductions to a figure below the pre-war prices of the German cartel when we were dependent upon that source for our supply. Our production of synthetic organic chemicals of non-coal-tar origin reached an all-time peak in 1933, with an output of over 767 million pounds and sales of 539 million pounds, valued at \$52.4 millions. In the non-coal-tar organic field there is a large variety of products, including medicinal, solvents required in lacquers, ethylene glycol, which is used extensively in manufacturing a non-freezing dynamite and as an anti-freeze in auto-



mobiles, flavors, perfumes, etc. To this list can be added a large variety of products which are used as raw materials for specialized chemical and non-chemical manufacturing operations, such as formaldehyde, used in the manufacture of synthetic resins, carbon tetrachloride, for dry cleaning, and acetic anhydride used as a raw material in the production of acetate silk. One branch of this industry uses petroleum gases as a starting point for the production of hundreds of compounds. Those who have specialized in this branch forecast a future to it at least equal to that of the coal-tar section..."

**Chemical Trade**                      **Export** trade in chemicals and allied products improved in 1933, especially from the standpoint of tonnage, the Department of Commerce announced in a world chemical survey for last year. The relative position of large producers and exporters remained unchanged in world trade. The United States is the largest importer, it was stated. Germany continued as leading exporter. World exports exceeded \$900,000,000 in value last year. Russia and Japan increased chemical shipments last year, the former to European countries and the latter to the Far East, the report stated. (Wall Street Journal, June 30.)

**Ensilage Method**                      "...A good deal of research has been conducted in recent years by the agricultural research section of Imperial Chemical Industries, Limited, and one of the most interesting developments is the addition of acids to minimise fermentation that normally takes place when green material is stacked," says Country Life (London) for July 21. "In this method, known as the A.I.V. system, the fodder is stored in an air-tight container or silo. The fodder is stored in layers of from 4 to 6 inches in depth and each layer is then sprayed with a suitable amount of diluted acid in solution. The material is well trodden in order to exclude the air, and when the silo is filled the surface is sealed off with a special anti-mould preparation. There are alternative methods of treating silage, and one of these employs molasses, whereby crude sugar or molasses are added during the filling of the silo at the rate of 1/2 to 1 pound of sugar per 100 pounds of fresh fodder..."

**Mississippi Valley**                      The New York Times (July 28) in an editorial on the drought in the Mississippi Valley, says: "...More than one-half is drought stricken--above St. Louis alone 691,000 square miles, the guage readings at that point having reached the lowest summer level in the history of the station (74 years). The Arkansas River readings, also the lowest of record, suggest what is happening in the 152,000 square miles which it drains. At Shreveport the Red River readings are but a bit above the 'all-time low'...It was predicted by an authority that 'so long as the earth continues to revolve toward the east and the present relationship of ocean and continent continues', the blessings which come of a fair regularity of rainfall and a rich tillable soil would also continue. And we cannot doubt that, as was once prophesied when the streams were turned into pitch, the waters will again break out. Meanwhile what the rest of the nation with its streams of plenty can do must be quickly done."



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 1--Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\* Minneap. \$1.12 $\frac{1}{4}$ -1.16 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.13-1/8-\$1.17-1/8; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.01 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1.03 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chi. \$1.04 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1.05 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St.Louis \$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1.07; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-\$1.00; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 85¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 77-7/8-80-7/8¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 72 $\frac{3}{4}$ -73 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St.Louis 71 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ -71¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ -46 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; K.C. 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ -49¢; Chi. 44 $\frac{1}{4}$ -47 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St.Louis 45-45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 97-99¢; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.88-1.93.

Virginia and Maryland Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$2.35 per stave barrel in city markets. New Jersey sacked stock 80¢-\$1 per 100-pounds in the East. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$2-\$2.10 carlot sales in Chicago. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large, \$1.75-\$2.25 per six-basket crate in consuming centers; \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Macon. North and South Carolina Elbertas, all sizes, \$1.25-2.50 per bushel basket in the East; \$1.50-1.60 f.o.b. Candor. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions sold at 90¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in city markets. New Jersey stock 90¢-\$1 in New York City. North and South Carolina, Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$275-\$350 bulk per car, auction sales in New York City; Dixie Belles 24-28 pounds, \$50-\$115 f.o.b. Macon, Ga.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 7 points to 12.91¢ per pound. On the same day last year the price was 10.18¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 8 points to 13.12¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 5 points to 13.07¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 91 Score, 25 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents; 90 Score, 24 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; S.Daisies, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Y.Americas, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 22-25¢; Standards, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Firsts, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 28

Section 1

August 3, 1934

## GOVERNMENT BUDGET

Ending the first month of the fiscal year with a deficit of \$248,685,105, as compared with \$107,757,140 on July 31, 1933, the Government was in the comfortable position of having a cash balance of \$2,471,880,859, as against \$233,932,059 the year before. Receipts and expenditures all showed gains, but Secretary Morgenthau declined for the time being to analyze the situation. The June 30 deficit was \$3,989,-496,035, as compared with the original budget estimate of \$7,309,068,211. For the fiscal year the deficit estimate is \$1,986,133,221. For the fiscal years 1934 and 1935 expenditures had been estimated at \$9,295,201,432. (Press.)

## UNION STOCKYARDS

Employees of livestock commission men at the Union Stockyards voted last night to walk out, says a Chicago report to the Associated Press. Their action followed a decision of the commission men to open the yards for receipts of livestock, despite the strike of 800 livestock handlers. With only Government-owned cattle coming in, the big stockyards have been peaceful since the beginning of the handlers' strike early July 24.

## ARGENTINE GRAIN PRICES

Argentine wheat and oats reached the highest prices at Buenos Aires yesterday in several years as all grains continued their upward trend under active buying. High-grade wheat known as the Brazil type was quoted at 8.10 pesos a quintal, equivalent to 74 cents a bushel. The ordinary export types were quoted at 7.30 pesos a quintal at Buenos Aires, equivalent to 66 5/8 cents a bushel. Oats reached 5.8 pesos a quintal at Buenos Aires, equivalent to 21 cents a bushel. Corn was 6.60 pesos a quintal, or 56 1/4 cents a bushel. (New York Times.)

## SILVER CERTIFICATES

Silver certificates are being run off by the big printing presses at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing as rapidly as possible, Secretary Morgenthau said yesterday, following a demand by Senator Thomas of Oklahoma, spokesman for the "inflationist" group for more speed by the Treasury in issuing silver certificates under recently enacted legislation. Alvin W. Hall, director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, stated that \$12,804,000 in \$1 silver certificates and \$11,640,000 in \$5 notes had been printed in the new design. (Press.)

## LOANS TO INDUSTRY

The first of the direct loans to industry by central banks of the Federal Reserve System is reported in the weekly statement of the system issued yesterday. The amount, \$5,000,000, is listed under "industrial advances". The bank or banks making the advances are not disclosed, except that the statement of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York shows that it was not made in New York City. (Press.)



Muskrat  
Control

Country Life (London) for July 21 contains an article on "New Methods in the Anti-Musquash Campaign". It says: "...The methods used in the campaign (in England) have undergone a process of evolution and new devices are continually being adopted...Although innumerable types of trap have been used against the rodent, they may be said to fall into three main categories, namely, the common spring-toothed, the spring-ring and the box patterns...The box pattern is made of wire mesh, and is rectangular. A flap or cone is so arranged that once the animal is inside escape is impossible. Herr Roith, a Bavarian expert who visited England to demonstrate his methods of control, favoured the box pattern, and his method of using it was roughly as follows: The submerged entrance to a burrow having been found, a small box trap was securely fixed in it. Then, the general line of the burrow having been ascertained, he would retire some yards from the entrance and thrust into the ground and through the burrow a long steel prod rather like a walking stick. By prodding, he would endeavor to drive the rat into the trap. He also used a large box trap which he would submerge in the vicinity of tracks in the water. Above the trap would be suspended a thin wire, and a rat striking this as it swam along would at once dive and be received into the trap. Despite the success claimed for these methods in Bavaria, the most widely used trap in Shropshire is the spring-toothed..."

Financing

Foreign Trade "Promotion of export and import trade with the world, expecting Russia, is the lately extended purpose of the Second Export-Import Bank of Washington," says an editorial in the Wall Street Journal (July 31). "The function of this bank is to finance the marketing of our surpluses, both manufacturing and agricultural, in foreign countries. Its interest is in assisting the nationals of this country in export and import business and not those of other governments. It is to be hoped also that it will be an assistance to domestic commercial banks and not an active competitor for business that they can transact. This bank is not to be confused with the one set up for the sole purpose of trade with Russia. The original intention was three banks, one for Russia, a second for trade with Cuba and a third for the remaining world; the second has now been extended to include the functions of the third. As section 2 of the Johnson law of April 1934, specifically excepts from its provisions a corporation in which the United States has a controlling interest, there seems to be nothing to prevent this new bank from dealing abroad, even if it should see fit to deal with foreign governments..."

Science and  
Industry

Nature (London) for July 21 says: "Lord Bledsoe, in an address entitled 'Some Reflections on the Economic Crisis,' said that whatever may be the ultimate remedies for the world's economic depression, no nation can anticipate assured participation in economic recovery unless it puts its own house in order by a policy of strenuous and persistent progress, an enlightened realization of what is true economy, and an equitable and far-sighted assessment of the relative contribution to national wealth and popular well-being of all productive activities. First among



the indispensable factors conducive to national prosperity are unflagging support of scientific research as applied to industrial production, distribution and transport, and systematic machinery for carrying ascertained knowledge, derived from such research and from the experience of successful enterprise, on to every farm and into every factory, mine, warehouse, shop and seaport throughout the country. Technical training has become more than ever essential to industrial success..."

**Electricity on the Farm**      The increased use of electricity in rural districts is rapidly giving to farm life the ease and attractiveness of the city dwellers' existence, delegates to the eleventh annual convention of the National Committee on the Relation of Electricity to Agriculture were told. Some of the modern equipment now in use or being tested includes lights for insect control, an electric fence of one charged wire which replaces three or four strands of barbed wire, apparatus for cooling farm produce before it is shipped to market and an electrical milk pasteurizer. An annual report of the progress made in the electrification of farms was presented by Dr. E. A. White, director of the organization. It showed that Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, Indiana and Wisconsin are now among the ten States having the largest number of electrified farms. Illinois has 25,216 electrified farms, which represent 11.8 percent of all the farms in the State; Michigan has 40,386, or 23.8 percent; Iowa, 21,704, or 14.7 percent; Indiana, 23,237, or 12.3 percent; and Wisconsin, 38,490, or 21.2 percent. "Electricity is making rural homes as modern as any other homes," Dr. White said. (New York Times.)

**"De-Silted Water"**      Rushing water, released from the placid lakes behind and Power Plants large dams, may bring disaster to some of the great power plants placed in canyons to utilize impounded river water. Because this danger may threaten the power plants at Boulder, Grand Coulee, Fort Peck, Norris and other dams, engineers of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation are studying this problem. In most cases there is no fear that rapid and deep scour will affect the actual stability of the structures themselves, but it is possible that by lowering the level of the river bed below the "exhaust" outlets from the generator turbines their running efficiency may be reduced. Water running over loose dirt and rocks produces the same grinding action that can be seen when a building is being cleaned with a sand blast. This scour or erosion is the method by which, through many millions of years, rivers have worn great canyons in solid rock. A summary on this phenomenon has been compiled by E. W. Lane, research engineer in the Bureau of Reclamation. (Science Service, July 10.)

**Uses for Coal**      Experiments looking toward the development of new uses for coal, including a solid, smokeless fuel from bituminous coal, have been under way for some time by the TVA. These experiments, according to Chairman Morgan of the TVA, are in line with the duty of the Authority to make studies, experiments and demonstrations looking toward the best utilization of the natural resources of the valley region. (TVA press release, July 18.)



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 2--Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.12-1/8-\$1.16-1/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\* Minneap. \$1.13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-1.17<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\* K.C. \$1.03-\$1.04<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; Chi. \$1.07-1.07<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>; St.Louis \$1.07; No. 2 S.R.Wr., St.Louis \$1.01-\$1.02; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 85¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 78-81¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 72<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-73<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; St.Louis 71<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 70<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-71¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 46-47¢; K.C. 48-49<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Chi. 44<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-47<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 97-99¢; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.90<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-1.95<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

Virginia and Maryland Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$2.35 per stave barrel in city markets. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 85¢-\$1.10 per 100 pounds in the East. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$2-\$2.10 carlot sales in Chicago. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes, \$1.65-\$2.25 per six-basket crate in eastern cities; \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Macon. North Carolina Elbertas \$1.25-\$2.37<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> per bushel basket in New York City; \$1.50-\$1.60 f.o.b. Candor. Massachusetts Yellow varieties of onions brought 90¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in terminal markets. New York yellows 85¢-\$1.05 in New York City. North and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$275-\$380 bulk per car on auction sales in New York City; Dixie Belles, 24-pound average, \$40-\$75 f.o.b. Macon.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 1 point to 12.90¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 10.18¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 13.09¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 13.04¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 26 cents; 91 Score, 25<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents; 90 Score, 25 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents; S.Daisies, 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents; Y.Americas, 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 23-25<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents; Standards, 21-22<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents; Firsts, 18<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

- - - -



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 29

Section 1

August 4, 1934

**POWER DEVELOPMENT** President Roosevelt yesterday pledged the Government to furthering greater power developments and to perpetuating control over such power in the hands of the people, says a Bonneville (Oreg.) report to the New York Times. Mr. Roosevelt called the Colombia project the third in the Government's schedule, the first being on the Colorado River and the second on the Tennessee. "And another, the St. Lawrence, is going to be started," he said.

**ELM DISEASE CAMPAIGN** Warning that the Dutch elm disease was spreading to a degree which threatened to destroy elm trees throughout New York State, Governor Lehman called on the special session of the legislature yesterday to appropriate \$155,000 to combat it. The Governor is apprehensive that the disease may strike at the elms with a devastation similar to that caused by the disease that almost wiped out the State's chestnut trees some years ago. It was pointed out that many public places are now decorated with elms and that their destruction would be a severe blow. (New York Times.)

**ENGLISH COTTON YARN** After hearing a gloomy report on Germany's ability to pay for materials for her factories, Lancashire (England) mill owners decided yesterday to suspend all exports of cotton yarn to that country, says a Manchester report to the New York Times. This decision was reached in spite of the fact that it will close many mills. It will throw at least 10,000 spinning operatives out of work and possibly 40,000 others engaged in handling supplies for the mills in Manchester. Notices were sent out last night that the factories would close pending possible arrangements by Germany to guarantee payments for goods.

**PHILIPPINE TRADE** Threescore leading Filipino and Filipino-American business men and political leaders started a move yesterday to retain free trade with the United States during and after the transition period that will lead to independence for the Philippines, says a Manila cable to the Associated Press. The group announced plans for a campaign of education within the United States dealing with the value of the Philippine market for products, at the same time urging the insular legislature to give more adequate protection to American goods.

**VIRGINIA TEXTILES** A total of 31,038 Virginia workers have been employed in the textile trades during the first six months of 1934, compared to an average of 24,768 during the same period in 1933, Maj. Frank P. Evans, statistician of the Virginia industrial commission, revealed yesterday on the basis of reports not yet entirely completed. The increased personnel is due not so much to greater production as the spreading of work by these industries. (Press.)



## Section 2

## Steel Barns

Business Week (July 28) describes a new steel barn at the Chicago Fair, which "demonstrates a simplified steel construction method for farm buildings and commercial buildings, where economy is important. The new method was developed by the Steelox Company of Chicago, in cooperation with the American Rolling Mill Company, the Celotex Company and Sears, Roebuck. There are no rafters, studs or joists. A single unit is used for floors, walls, partitions, and the roof. This unit is a channel-shaped panel with sides flanged to interlock, ready insulated with an inch of fiber board held in place with a special adhesive. Where interior walls are to be finished, the panels have a furring strip attached to the flange. Panels may be erected locked or smooth side out, may be made deeper or heavier where additional strength is desired...With the usual small parts eliminated, the Steelox panel becomes a commodity which may be stocked by the regular sources of supply of the building industry. A farmer may pick out his plan, buy the required number of units and fittings, put up his own fire-, vermin-, and rot-proof building which may be altered or even moved without waste."

Kansas  
Farmers

"A reporter for the Kansas City Star, who has been investigating conditions in the worst parts of drought-stricken Kansas, contradicts reports to the effect that the State's farmers are ready to quit," says an editorial in the Baltimore Sun (July 27). "They have been hard hit and will need help after their three years of hard luck, but they are going to carry on. As one of them put it: 'What! Lose faith in Kansas? Say, man, you might as well talk of losing faith in Heaven.'... They are still imbued with their faith that one good wheat crop at fair prices will put them on their feet again, as it has often done before. The section in question is a wheat country and little else has been raised. But there appears to be recognition of the risks of such a policy and the prediction is made that the future will see diversification of crops, with more attention to the making of farming a year-round business. Governor Landon has issued a stirring appeal to Kansas farmers to tighten their belts and to call upon their courage and patience in these trying times. He declared that there is no basis for 'panicky rumors' and that with Federal, State and local aid 'we are going to come through'..."

Harriman on  
Homesteads

Henry I. Harriman, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, described the Administration's subsistence homestead experimentation recently as "the most fundamental and far-reaching movement under way". "Social security has got to be given the people of this country," Mr. Harriman said in an interview. "The subsistence homestead projects will show us the way to the necessary decentralization of industry, the relief of mass congestion in the cities, provide for workers to own their own homes and contribute to their own support. I believe that if the subsistence movement already had been carried out there would be little need for unemployment insurance, or rather unemployment reserves. I am not opposing unemployment reserves, or old age pensions, but my fear is that they may impose too heavy a burden upon business at this time... (A.P.)"



Banking  
Comment

The current trend of banking is toward greater industrial and commercial borrowing activity in the fall in spite of a rather spotty present business situation, states the August issue of the American Bankers Association Journal. "Banks in nearly all the Federal Reserve Districts, but especially in the Boston, Philadelphia, Cleveland, St. Louis, Atlanta and Minneapolis districts, report continued inquiry for loans from industrial concerns with tentative arrangements for borrowings in the early autumn," it says. "Also, while most industrialists and merchants seem to anticipate indefinite business revival in the autumn, they do not propose to go ahead with new undertakings until the expected business revival approaches realization. Unless there is a marked upturn in trade in the near future, loans in considerable volume are likely to be required to carry accumulated stocks of merchandise and prevent the dumping of goods upon a market already displaying signs of weakness." Total outstanding loans, on securities, and otherwise, as reported by member banks, remain in about the same volume as in June, "but this reflects a decrease in the loans of banks in metropolitan districts and an increase in loans by country banks," says the journal. (Press.)

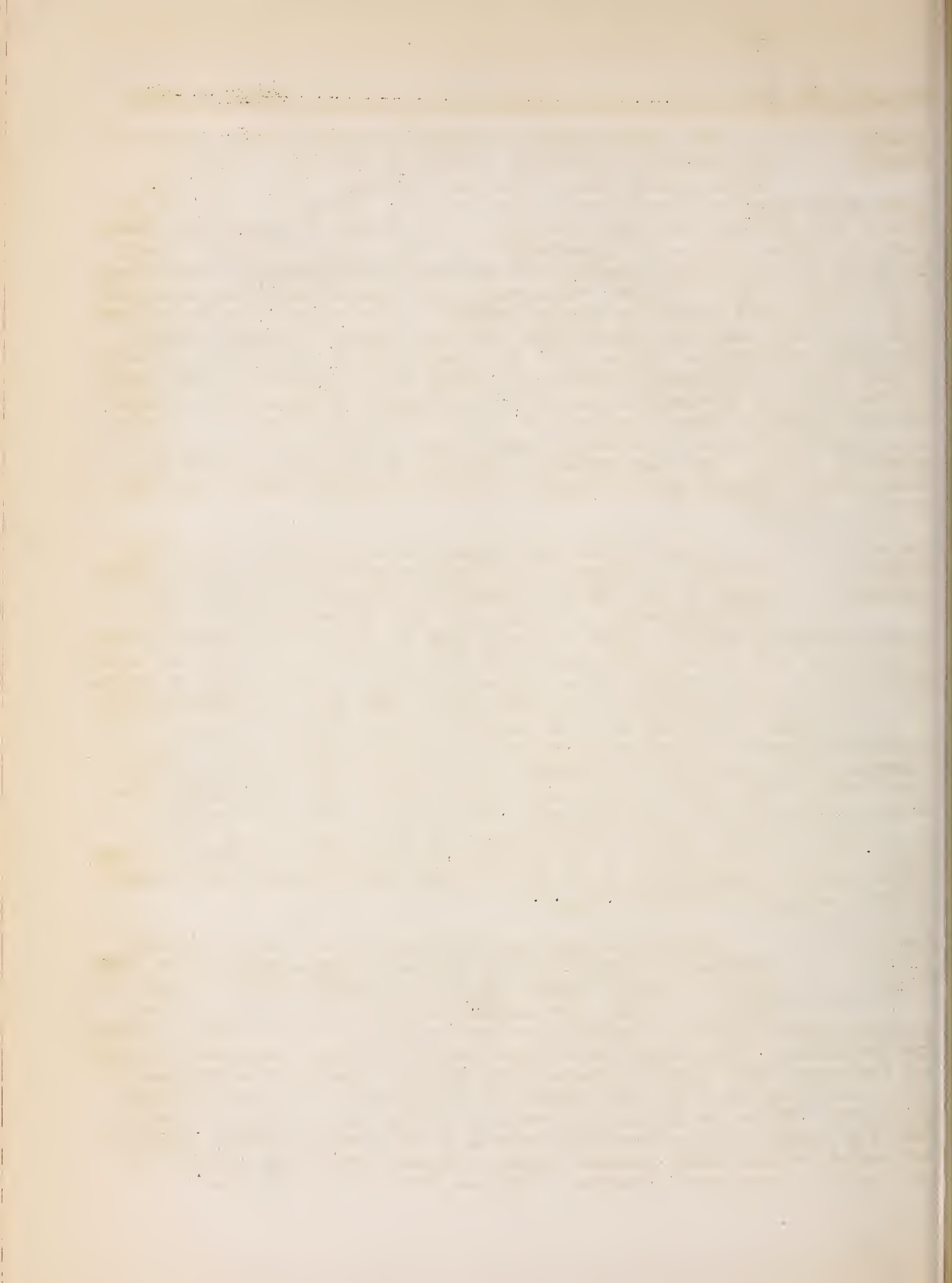
Soviet  
Rubber  
Industry

"...Ten years have elapsed since the Soviet Union began the work of searching for domestic rubber-bearing plants which could be used for the industrial production of rubber, and the organization of plantations for the cultivation of the plants having the highest rubber content," says the Soviet Union Review (July). "During this period over 1,600 plants have been studied and of these 600 have been found to contain rubber in one degree or another in their roots or stems. The first important success in this work came in 1929 when the rubber-bearing plant tau-sagzy, containing 30 to 40 percent of pure rubber, was found in the Kara-Tay mountains of Kazakhstan...Hondrilla was subsequently found in Azerbaidshan, but is inferior to tau-sagzy, as it contains only about 15 percent pure rubber. Other plants with a high rubber content were subsequently discovered, among them kok and krym-sagzy, both of which contains from 35 to 38 percent of rubber. Soviet rubber plants and gutta percha trees are already cultivated extensively in the Ukraine, the North Caucasus, Central Asia, Moscow Region, in Kazakhstan, in the Central Black Earth District and a number of other sections of the U.S.S.R...."

Gypsum  
Desert  
Plants

Drought and heat that would seem "fit to kill a horned toad" mean nothing to a few species of extra-tough plants, that grow in a unique desert composed of drifting dunes of pure gypsum crystals. Two hundred seventy square miles of these drifting gypsum crystals constitute the area known as the White Sands of southern New Mexico. These dunes are so white that it is almost impossible to avoid the impression that they are 50-foot snow drifts. Studies of adjustments to these conditions are being made by Prof. F. W. Emerson of New Mexico Normal University. There are only a few species of plants that are able to grow upward fast enough to keep from being covered by the advancing dunes. They are cottonwood, rabbit brush, aromatic sumac, a shrubby pennyroyal, a hucca and that peculiar gymnosperm, Ephedra. (Science News Letter, July 28.)







# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 30

Section 1

August 6, 1934

## SILVER CURRENCY

New silver currency will begin moving into circulation through the Treasurer's office today, officials said. This will be followed by distribution through the Federal Reserve Banks as production of the certificates increases. What effect issuance of the new silver money will have on the amount of money in circulation is a debated point. Many observers express the belief that, barring an increase in business that would necessitate more currency, the effect will be merely to retire Federal Reserve notes. (A.P.)

## ARGENTINE.

### GRAIN PRICES

Grain prices reached the highest levels in three years in Argentina last week with wild speculative buying on news of unfavorable crop conditions in the Northern Hemisphere, says a Buenos Aires cable to the New York Times. Wheat touched 8.30 pesos a quintal, equivalent to 76 cents a bushel. Corn was 7 pesos a quintal, or 60 cents a bushel; rye, 7.30 pesos a quintal, or 62 3/8 cents a bushel; oats, 6.15 pesos a quintal, or 30 cents a bushel; flaxseed, 15 pesos a quintal, or \$1.26 a bushel. The week's exports included a cargo of 7,116 tons of oats from Bahia Blanca to New Orleans.

## CHICAGO

### STOCKYARDS

Operations at the Union Stockyards were normal Saturday night as livestock handlers returned to work on their regular shifts and resumed the duties they left when they went on strike July 24. By today all of the men were expected to be back on their former schedules. Yard officials predicted an exceptionally large run of trucks in addition to the hundreds of train carloads of stock. (New York Times.)

## FARM

### DEBTS

Adjustment of more than \$100,000,000 in farmers' debts was attributed to county committees yesterday by the Farm Credit Administration, according to the Associated Press. Reports from farm debt adjustment committees in 2,400 counties of 42 States, or 90 percent of the Nation's agricultural counties, indicated their belief that success in adjusting debts between creditors and debtors had made unnecessary, in most cases, that farmers resort to bankruptcy under the Frazier-Lenke mortgage moratorium law.

## ARGENTINE

### MEAT BOARD

The Argentine Government has decided to subsidize meat exports to markets other than the British. It has published a decree establishing a special meat export board to find new markets, according to a Buenos Aires cable to the New York Times. The subsidy will be paid out of the profits the government now makes from the purchase and sale of exchange arising from meat exports.



## Section 2

Economics in Germany      The last of the notable reports on economic conditions in Germany compiled by Col. J.W.F. Thewell, commercial counselor to the British Embassy in Berlin, just before he died, brings the story down to June, says a London wireless to the New York Times. This report says it would be a mistake to assume that Germany has become negligible as a competitor on account of the decline in her foreign trade. "She will make herself felt," it adds, "partly because she will help her exporters with cheap marks on those markets which are of value to her, partly because she will do the same regarding large and important international orders and partly because of her forward drive in production having caused the latter in many respects to outrun international purchasing power. Her manufacturers prefer to sell their excess output very cheaply abroad rather than to lock up capital in stocks. Should Germany at a later date, when general stabilization of currencies has been achieved and when her foreign indebtedness is lower, decide to devalue the mark to the level of the pound and the dollar her competitive power would indeed be formidable."

Control of Orchard Pests      Electrocution is the latest method of controlling orchard insect pests at Massachusetts State College. Prof. A.I. Bourne, Stewart D. Edmond, and Prof. C. I. Gunness are studying the effectiveness of five electric insect traps in a local apple orchard near Amherst to determine the practicability of the method on wide scale. Each trap consists of a double wire screen inclosing a 75-watt frosted bulb. The light attracts insects at night but as they fly toward it they come in contact with the electrified screen wire. Current at 110 volts cremates them. Some are only killed, however, and fall to a tray beneath the trap. The present installation of five traps is already known to have killed 1,300 insects in a single night, not counting those so completely destroyed that identification is impossible. (Science Service, July 27.)

Discovery of Elements      Only 9 of the 92 elements were known before Christ, according to a paper prepared for the American Chemical Society by Prof. Harrison Hale, of the University of Arkansas. Seven of these were metals, copper, gold, iron, lead, mercury, silver, tin--and two were nonmetallic--carbon and sulphur. No others were definitely added to these for more than twelve centuries; arsenic was discovered in 1250 and antimony in 1450, so that when Columbus discovered America he could have known only 11 recognized elementary substances. Then during a period of more than two additional centuries only one other element was added, phosphorus, in 1669. Fifty of the 92 elements have been discovered in the past 200 years, and every decade in these two centuries expect one (1850-59) has seen the discovery of one or more elements...The X-ray spectroscopic method resulted in 1922 in the discovery of hafnium and a few years later of mäsuriu, rhenium, and illinium. The discovery of the last of the 92 elements, virginium and alabamine in 1930 and 1931, was made possible by the magnetoptic method of analysis, perfected in the years just previous. (Press.)



# **Kansas Cattle**

"In the sprawling Kansas City stockyards, the great market through which the cattle and hogs of the Southwest pass on their way to dinner tables in New York and other parts of the country, one was reminded recently of the Old Testament story of Joseph and the 'Seven Years of Dearth' in Egypt," says Russell B. Porter in the New York Times. "On one side of the yards are the regular commercial cattle, brought in from the ranges to be sold to packers and farmers. They are, for the most part, fat and healthy looking. They may be regarded as the 'Seven Well-Favored Kine and Fat Fleshed' of the Bible, multiplied many times. They come from the sections which have escaped the drought. Across the Kansas River, known locally as the Kaw, in the old quarantine section of the yards, a relic of tick-infection days, are the 'Seven Other Kine--Ill-Favored and Lean Fleshed', also many times multiplied. These are some of the hundreds of thousands of head of cattle (it will perhaps be 7,000,000 eventually) which the Federal Government is buying to keep them from dying of hunger, thirst or disease in the drought-stricken range and farm country throughout the Northwest, Southwest and Midwest...More than 200,000 Government cattle have passed through the Kansas City stockyards. The peak day was 35,000. On one day as many as 8,500 have been branded. Thus the Government is becoming the largest owner of cattle in the country, and the 'R' or 'ERA' brand the most numerous on the cattle range..."

# **TVA and Power Rates Trend**

The Tennessee Valley Authority is establishing a "yardstick" for electric power rates throughout the country by purchasing power systems at fair prices and building lines where they do not now exist, in the opinion of John B. Blandford, Jr., coordinator of the authority. Declaring that rates have been too high, Mr. Blandford stated that the "TVA rates are removing this obstacle." "A power policy has been formulated. The content of the 'yardstick' has been defined. Wholesale and retail rates have been fixed. The nucleus of a TVA power system has been established through the purchase of transmission and distribution facilities. A transmission line to connect Wilson, Wheeler and Norris dams is under construction. One hundred miles of rural transmission lines have been pushed out into new territory..." "With the cooperation of leading electrical manufacturers, dealers and the electric utilities, the electric farm and home authority, an agency of the TVA, has made it possible for housewives to obtain through regular dealer channels electric ranges, refrigerators and water heaters at prices from 25 to 35 percent lower than those heretofore prevailing. (Wall Street Journal, August 2.)

# **Soviet Harvest**

"In itself the Soviet harvest probably will be somewhat worse than last year's, but improved methods of grain collection are expected to bring the actual volume gathered in nearly up to that of a year ago," says Walter Duranty in the New York Times (August 1). "Nowhere is there anything that might be called crop failure. Winter grain suffered from the spring drought, but replanting did much to compensate for that. Although the volume of wheat and rye is less than that of last year, the quality is said to be higher, which is important in the export market. The foregoing is a summary of conditions found by an authoritative foreign expert on agriculture who made a trip through the Soviet grain belt..."



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 3--Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.13-\$1.17; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.17 $\frac{3}{4}$ -\$1.17 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.03 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.04 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chi. \$1.07-\$1.07 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St.Louis \$1.07; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis \$1.00-\$1.01; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 85¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 78-7/8-81-7/8¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 72-73 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 72¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 70-70 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St.Louis 71 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 46-47¢; K.C. 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ -49¢; Chi. 44 $\frac{3}{4}$ -48¢; St.Louis 45 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 98-99¢; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.91-\$1.96.

Virginia and Maryland Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$2.40 per stave barrel in city markets. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 90¢-\$1 per 100 pounds in Philadelphia; \$1 f.o.b. Northern and Central Points. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$2 carlot sales in Chicago. North and South Carolina Tom Watson watermelons, 24-30 pounds average, \$255-\$355 bulk per car, auction sales, in New York City; 24 pounds Dixie Belles \$40-\$60 f.o.b. Macon. Massachusetts Yellow varieties of onions brought 90¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in eastern cities. California stock \$1.10-\$1.25 in a few cities. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes, \$1.50-\$2 per six-basket crate in the East; \$1.15-\$1.25 f.o.b. Macon. North Carolina Elbertas, all sizes \$1.50-\$2.65 per bushel basket in a few cities; \$1.30-\$1.40 f.o.b. Candor.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 12 points to 12.78¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 9.87¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 12 points to 12.97¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 12 points to 12.92¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 91 Score, 26 cents; 90 Score, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Daisies, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Y.Americas, 13 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 22-25 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Standards, 21-21 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Firsts, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

- - - -



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 31

Section 1

August 7, 1934

## CENTRAL BANK PROPOSAL

The creation of a central bank of issue, which would take over the functions of the Federal Reserve System and place control of credit and currency directly under the Government, was said by officials yesterday to be a proposal under consideration for presentation to the next Congress, according to a copyright report by the Associated Press. Curtailment of the Federal Reserve's authority has been considered desirable by some administration elements. Some officials and members of Congress now contend that the banking and monetary legislation already passed has been sufficiently "digested" for steps toward a central bank measure.

## BRAZILIAN

The first meeting of the new Brazilian Federal Council on Foreign Commerce was held yesterday, with Foreign Minister <sup>Vargas</sup> presiding, says a cable to the New York Times from Rio de Janeiro. The council was divided into committees on credit and propaganda, on production, tariffs and transportation and on commerce and commercial pacts. Senhor Vargas stated that heretofore Brazil had lacked an organization able to adjust her foreign and domestic commerce to the present demands and that chaos had resulted. The new council, he added, aimed to bring discipline into trade, perfecting and expanding commerce on a rational basis, studying markets, collecting information, studying advertising methods and attacking the problems of exchange of commercial balance deficits of frozen bank funds and of tariff wars.

## SHEEP BUYING

Legal obstacles to large scale sheep purchases in the drought area by the Farm Administration were removed yesterday when Controller General McCarl approved the program. Last week McCarl, in a preliminary ruling, declined to sanction use of Federal funds for such a purpose. He acquiesced, however, after receiving a detailed request from the administration. Officials predicted between 3,000,000 and 5,000,000 sheep and goats would be bought and processed into meat for the unemployed. (Press.)

## HIDES AND LEATHER

It was announced in New York City yesterday that meetings would be held today in Boston and Chicago by leaders of the tanning and allied industries to consider a remedy for the disorder into which the hides and leather markets have been thrown during the last month. The upset markets have been a consequence of the Government's program of cattle slaughtering in the drought regions of the West. During the past weeks the slaughter of the Government cattle has proceeded at the rate of 200,000 head a week, adding two-thirds to the normal production rate of skins. Within three weeks the price of hides has fallen almost three cents a pound and still is sagging. (Press.)



## Section 2

Frozen-Food  
Lockers for  
Rent

"A locker system, comparable in many ways with the safety deposit box system in a bank, is now being applied to the handling of frozen foods and other commodities in Yakima, Washington," says Henry W. Young in Refrigerating Engineering (August). "The user may rent boxes or compartments at a flat sum per year of \$9 for 12 feet or \$12 for 13 feet. This locker system is believed to have brought within the reach of the home owner a new and economical plan for the preservation of meats, vegetables and fruits...The locker room is kept at a temperature of 5 to 10 degrees F. It is entered through a pre-cooling room kept at about 40 degrees F. The box renter has access to the locker room from early morning up to 7 p.m. and to 10 p.m. Saturday evenings. The idea is to make each renter his own cold storage man. He puts his peas, beans, asparagus, small fruits and the rest, fresh from the garden, direct into his freezing locker. He may on his own hook buy vegetables and fruits when they are at the best in their season, and lowest in cost, and have them to eat at seasons when they are either out of the market or are very high in price. Similarly with meats, the box renters may secure fresh beef, or a hog that has been butchered to his order. This is held in the pre-cooling room long enough for the animal heat to dissipate. An attendant will, for a small service charge of 1 1/4 cents a pound, cut it up into roasts, steaks, chops, soup meat, etc. and put these into packages of the size the family requires...As a business venture, the charge made to the public for such a service will depend upon two closely related factors, the cost of producing the refrigeration and the interest charge upon the cost of installation..."

Business  
Survey

Business activity declined moderately in June from the spring peak and the downward trend continued in July, according to the monthly survey of current business of the Department of Commerce. The recession in manufacturing in June was in excess of the usual seasonal trend, the adjusted index receding 2 points to 84 percent of the 1923-25 average. "This movement was reflected in a slight reduction (less than 2 percent) in the number of factory workers," said the report, "and a somewhat larger drop (3.1 percent) in factory payrolls." Freight carloadings in the period rose slightly, while exports recovered from the setback of the preceding month. Imports declined by more than the estimated seasonal amount and construction contracts awarded showed a slight improvement, with operations continuing on a low level.

Pseudorabies  
of Cattle

Swine may be the reservoir for pseudorabies, an acute, highly fatal disease of cattle, cats and dogs, Dr. Richard E. Shope has found from investigations at the laboratories of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research at Princeton, N.J. The disease is caused by a virus. Following discovery of a European investigator, S. Von Ratz, that pseudorabies occurs naturally in wild swine, Dr. Shope began studying the disease in relation to domestic swine, he explained in his report to Science. Injecting the virus under the skin of these animals or swabbing it inside their noses produces the disease. But, unlike cattle, swine have a very mild form of pseudorabies and do not die of it. (Science Service, July 26.)



**Construction**                Engineering construction contracts for July were higher in July                in volume than any month since November 1933, and contracts for the week ended August 2 were 34 percent higher than for the average August of last year, according to the Engineering News Record. The total for the month, \$118,000,000, included \$100,161,000 in public contracts and was 135 percent in dollar value ahead of July last year. The percentage gain over last year drops to 97 when adjustment is made for the higher cost index. The total for the month is advanced by the high Federal figure of \$40,895,000, which includes \$29,339,301 for the main contract for the Grand Coulee dam. Contracts for private engineering work fell 20 percent behind last year's figure for the first seven months of this year. (Press.)

**Japan**                        Faced with acute agricultural and silk culture problems, **Studies AAA**                the Japanese cabinet officials have studied the effects of United States agriculture administration activities in order to avoid pitfalls in dealing with the Japanese situation, says a Tokyo report to the United Press. The ministries of agriculture and finance examined the results of the American cotton destruction program of 1933 because of a demand in Japan that mulberry leaves be destroyed to curtail the production of cocoons. The ministry is advocating a reduction of production. Meanwhile the raw silk exportation market is stagnant.

**Windbreaks**                "Springs of water' in a dry and thirsty land' were a favorite figure of speech with the close-to-the-soil writers of **Trees**                of the Old Testament," says an editorial in the Christian Science Monitor (July 24). "And only those who have lived in a land of meager rainfall, such as the western United States is proving to be this year, can know the full vividness of the expression...With their well-drilling devices men have brought forth artificial springs all over what was once the Great American Desert, and with dams and ditches they have turned its sparing streams to their truck patches. But when skies are like brass the earth is parched with hot winds, then wells fail and streams disappear. Then it is that trees, which habitually are thought of as following where water is, perform their reverse function of bringing and conserving water for the land that has given them root. They spread their shade against the moisture-sucking rays of the sun. Still more important, if there are many of them they break the force of the searing winds along the surface of the ground which otherwise not only add to the evaporation but also scour away fertile and moisture-holding topsoil. These are reasons why the program announced by Secretary Wallace and Chief Forester Silcox, for planting windbreaks of trees each mile across a 100-mile belt reaching from North Dakota to Texas, gives promise of materially tempering the climate of that area..."

**Factory Wages**                The average per capita weekly earnings of factory workers declined 1.6 percent in June from May, the Bureau of Labor **Statistics** reports. Nevertheless, Commissioner Lubin said that with the exception of March and April, per capita earnings were higher in June than in any other month since December 1931 and 14 percent higher than for June 1933. (New York Times.)



Section 3.  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 6--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$6.00-\$9.50; cows good \$3.00-\$4.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$5.00-7.00; vealers good and choice \$4.75-6.25; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice \$4.00-5.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice \$4.40-\$5.05; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$4.90-\$5.15; 250-350 lbs good and choice \$4.85-\$5.15; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$2.75-\$3.85. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.40-7.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.18 $\frac{3}{4}$ -1.22 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 Am.Dur.\* Minneap. \$1.20 $\frac{1}{4}$ -1.24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.05-1.07 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chi. \$1.08 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1.10 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; St.Louis \$1.10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1.11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis \$1.03-\$1.03 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 91¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 84 $\frac{3}{4}$ -87 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ -77 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St.Louis 75-75 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 72 $\frac{1}{4}$ -73 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 48-5/8-49-5/8¢; K.C. 49¢; Chi. 45 $\frac{3}{4}$ -48 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 99¢-\$1.00; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.97 $\frac{1}{2}$ -2.02 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Virginia Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$2.35 per stave barrels in city markets. Maryland stock \$1.40-\$1.60 in the East. New Jersey sacked Cobblers \$1-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in city markets. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.80-\$1.85 in Cincinnati. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions brought 90¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in terminal markets. California Yellows \$1.15-\$1.40 in the Middle West. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes, \$1.50-\$2 per six basket crate in eastern cities; \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Macon. North Carolina Elbertas \$1.25-\$2.25 per bushel baskets, all sizes, in the East; \$1.50 f.o.b. Candor.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 4 points to 12.90¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 9.60¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 3 points to 13.08¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 4 points to 13.06¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 91 Score, 26 cents; 90 Score, 25 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -15 cents; S.Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents; Y.Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 23-25 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Standards, 22-22 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Firsts, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 32

Section 1

August 8, 1934

## HIDE PRICES

A proposal that hides of cattle killed under the Federal Government's drought relief program be kept off the market until they reach a price of nine cents a pound was unanimously endorsed yesterday by midwestern tanners as a step in the solution of the hide industry's problems, according to a Chicago report to the New York Times. The troubles of the tanning industry were precipitated by the wholesale slaughter of cattle under the Government's relief program. This huge slaughter, now going on at the rate of around 200,000 a week, is creating a hide surplus that is weakening the price structure of the market and is causing complications in the shoe manufacturing and packing industries as well as the tanning.

## AIR EXPRESS

Air express shipments from 115 cities in 29 states, consigned to 50 countries in Central and South America and the West Indies, left Newark Airport yesterday, opening a new international service under a simplified waybill developed by Pan American Airways and the Railway Express Agency. At Washington 200 pounds more express matter was added, so that in all the regular plane leaving Miami today will carry more than a ton of express matter to the hundreds of consignees in Latin America. (Press.)

## KANSAS HEAT

The mercury reached 109 degrees in Kansas City yesterday as it soared above the 100 mark for the thirty-sixth day, says a Kansas City report to the New York Times. It was 109 degrees. Never before has this district experienced such protracted heat nor so much suffering from drought.

## CANADIAN WHEAT

With only limited and sectional rainfall in July, present indications point to a Canadian wheat crop of less than 300,000,000 bushels, according to S. H. Logan, general manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, who says that Alberta has the best prospects, with Manitoba and Saskatchewan in descending order. In British Columbia the major field crops were much further advanced than usual and correspondingly less vulnerable to adverse influences. Splendid <sup>fields</sup> of early hay and grains have been cut. (Press.)

## N.Y.C. MILK

Opposing fixing a price for loose milk in New York City until a committee had consulted the city authorities, the State Milk Advisory Commission advised the Agriculture Commissioner, Charles H. Baldwin, yesterday that it was doubtful if any saving would be obtained through legalization of the sale of loose milk. The commission suggested that if the commissioner did establish a price to the grocer, that price should be 9 cents a quart in 40-quart cans, plus the actual cost of utensils and sterilization. (Press.)



## Section 2

Sugar Industry                      "From all parts of the world signs of the improvement now taking place in sugar continue to multiply," says an editorial in Facts About Sugar (August). "Projects for factory building are reported from Brazil. Actual construction of new mills is under way in such historic cane-growing areas as Louisiana and Jamaica. Mexico's most modern factory is doubling its capacity. China, ancient home of the sugar cane, is rebuilding its industry along modern lines. Florida too is stirring with plans for extension of its sugar making facilities. Completion of the revised trade agreement between the United States and Cuba is opening a new chapter in the history of Cuba's sugar industry, chapter that has begun with the replanting of neglected fields and will proceed with the re-equipment of mills that have been allowed to approach obsolescence under the stress of the past few trying seasons. Engineers estimate that three years of time and many millions of dollars will be required to bring Cuba's great industry up to the standard of efficiency required by present-day conditions."

Fertilizer Consumption              "Experience proves conservative fertilizer estimates were right, super-optimists wrong," says Business Week (August 4). "Deceived by earlier than usual sales last winter, some predicted doubling of fertilizer consumption this year. The fact is that shipments increased barely 10 percent. Production was advanced by optimistic manufacturers to a greater degree. Result: Total stocks at the end of the shipping season are almost 60 percent above a year ago."

Meat Trade Problems              The successful distribution and sale of the abundant meat supply which the industry will be called upon to market, largely because of the drought, will be one of the specific problems coming before the forthcoming meeting of meat retailers at their national convention, according to T. G. Lee, president of Armour & Company. He says that it is a problem in which retailers and packers are both concerned. "The drought in particular has forced the farmers to send in many cattle, hogs and sheep for which they are unable to provide feed and water," Mr. Lee said. "Packers and retailers have always accepted the responsibility for the marketing of all livestock produced by the farmer. It is an unwritten law that the packers shall buy the daily receipts, whether they are large or small, turn them into meat and by-products, and depend upon the retailers to move the meat into immediate consumption."

Reclamation Program              From the four corners of the globe strange plants are being brought to the rescue of the eroded Southwest in the reclamation program of the Federal Government. African water-melons, Australian salt brush, South African and Asiatic grasses, yuccas from Mexico, Ephedra plants from China, olive trees from Russia, bushes from Turkistan--these are but a few of the botanical oddities that will be introduced in the effort to bring back forage for stock and create watersheds on denuded hills and mountains in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada and West Texas. The vegetation of every arid or semi-tropical country of the earth will be tried



by the southwestern post of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Millions of cuttings of foreign plants and thousands of pounds of seeds will be used. The program was announced after a visit by K. A. Ryerson, chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry. This agency is cooperating with the Interior Department, which has charge of the soil erosion projects. The University of Arizona College of Agriculture Station is contributing the experimental farms. The city of Tucson is supplying lands on which plants may be grown for tests. Dr. Franklin J. Crider, director of the units in Tucson, says: "The work of the new station will follow two lines. First of all it will take over the introduction and testing of both native and foreign plants primarily for erosion control and also for other economic uses. Secondly, it will produce erosion control plants in quantity for use by soil erosion service workers throughout the southwest." The station has planted 18 acres of the university farms for experimentation and quantity production work. City of Tucson farms were planted to honey and black locust plants. (New York Times, August 5.)

Frozen Orange Juice      J. H. Shrader and A. H. Johnson, of the National Dairy Products Corporation, Inc., write in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry (August) on "Freezing Orange Juice". They review the literature and the commercial developments regarding the preservation of orange juice by freezing and discuss the methods used and the results of commercial experience with them. Briefly, they report that the variety of orange may be a more important consideration than the effect of the process used. From the manufacturing standpoint, the greatest difficulty lay in procuring uniformity of stock. In the marketing of the frozen orange juice price considerations were the dominant factor. Almost equally important was the requirement of the housewife for the juice to be in usable form for breakfast. Delivery from milk wagons was practical and feasible in some markets. The frozen juice did not lose its vitamin C strength during storage for a year. Excellent flavors still remained when the frozen juice was stored for more than two years.

Chilean Fruit      Agricultural authorities contemplate the intensification of fruit growing in Chile with a view to developing exports to American markets, where arrangements are being made to compete with California production, says a Santiago report to the New York Times. The establishment of a packing house, cold storage facilities and shipping accommodations are being considered, with financial support for exporters. Standard classification methods of packing have been adopted, it was announced recently.

Sale of Loose Milk      Restoration of the sale of loose milk in New York City would not mean much saving to the consumer, according to Dr. Leland Spencer of Cornell University, who made a survey of milk distribution costs last winter for the State Milk Control Board. Those who say the public would save 4 cents a quart from loose milk are just "fooling the public", Dr. Spencer declared. The most that could be cut from the present price would be 1 to 1 1/2 cents a quart, representing savings in distribution and delivery. "In distributing loose milk perhaps 1/2 cent a quart would be saved on the bottling cost and possibly 3/4 cent through delivery..."



## Section 3.

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 7--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$6.25-\$9.75; cows good \$3.25-\$5.00; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$5.00-7.25; vealers good and choice \$5.00-\$6.50; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice \$4.00-\$5.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice \$4.50-\$5.10; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$5.00-\$5.25; 250-350 lbs good and choice \$5.00-\$5.25; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$3.00-\$4.00. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.65-\$7.50.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.20-\$1.23; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.20 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.24 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.08 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Chi. \$1.11-\$1.11 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St.Louis \$1.12 (Nom); No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis \$1.04-\$1.05 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 91¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 86 $\frac{1}{4}$ -89 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 76 $\frac{1}{4}$ -77¢; St.Louis 75¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 74-74 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 49 $\frac{1}{4}$ -50 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; K.C. 49-52¢; Chi. 48 $\frac{3}{4}$ -50 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St.Louis 47 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 99¢-\$1.00; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.98 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$2.03 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Virginia and East Shore Maryland Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.35-\$2.25 per stave barrel in city markets. New Jersey sacked Cobblers brought 60¢-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1 f.o.b. Northern and Central Points. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.70-\$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes, ranged \$1.75-\$2.10 per six-basket crate in terminal markets; \$1.10-\$1.25 f.o.b. Macon. North Carolina Elbertas, all sizes, \$1.50-\$2.37 $\frac{1}{2}$  per bushel basket in city markets; \$1.50 f.o.b. Candor. Arkansas Elbertas \$1.50-\$2.15 in the Middle West; \$1.35-\$1.50 f.o.b. Nashville. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions brought 90¢-\$1.15 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers. California stock \$1.15-\$1.40 in the Middle West. Washington Valencias \$1.10-\$1.15 in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 11 points to 13.01¢ per pound. On the same day last year the price was 9.34¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 10 points to 13.18¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 8 points to 13.14¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 27 cents; 91 Score, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 90 Score, 26 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -15 cents; S.Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents; Y.Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 23-25 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Standards, 22-22 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Firsts, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 33

Section 1

August 9, 1934

## HOUSING PROGRAM

As the Federal Housing Administration prepared to begin actual operation next week looking toward renovation of homes, Secretary Roper said yesterday that a survey of 64 major cities had shown an apparent shortage of 5,000,000 habitable dwellings in the United States. "Millions of others are in need of minor and major repairs, and thousands of others are unfit for human habitation," he added. Mr. Roper suggested that owners and owner-occupants rely not solely upon Government help for building and renovation, but that a private program of construction and modernization be carried on independently. (Press.)

## AUTUMN BUSINESS

An improved fall business, with volume in excess of last year and a reasonable profit, was predicted yesterday by John McKinlay, president of Marshall Field & Company, in a talk before 1,200 buyers of the Interstate Merchants Council. "I believe that underlying conditions are better in the dry goods business," he said, "notwithstanding the slipping of the last month or two and despite the disaffection of some of the more radical elements, total or partial destruction of crops in certain sections, seriously increasing burden of taxation and other things you and I read about..." (New York Times.)

## DEPOSIT INSURANCE

Bank deposit<sup>insurance</sup>/cost 5.8054 cents for each \$1,000 of insured deposits in the first six months of operation of the FDIC, Chairman Leo T. Crowley announced yesterday. This was equal to about 2.32 percent of the assessment paid by banks members of the temporary fund. Assessments collected from member banks, as of June 30, amounted to \$39,664,640. It was estimated that more than 56,000,000 accounts were insured and that insured deposits amounted to about \$16,000,000,000 on that date. (New York Times.)

## STEEL GAINS

Mainly because of an unusual demand for tin plate resulting from the Government's meat canning program, the average operating rate in the steel industry has risen this week to 27 1/2 percent of capacity, as compared with 26 percent a week ago, according to the Iron Age. "Whether further gains will be made," says this publication, "depends on continuance of the increasing flow of tin plate tonnage and a revival of buying in other lines." (Press.)

## RELIEF PLANS

While the CWA, which took care of 4,000,000 needy last winter, will not be resurrected under that name, a similar program may go into operation as need for relief increases during the fall and winter, Aubrey Williams, acting relief administrator, said yesterday. No details have been worked out. Increased demands for relief are expected from the drought areas, where conditions are becoming worse and where the full effect of destitution will be felt when cold weather comes. (Press.)



## Section 2

Tree Belt  
Studies

A more temperate climate, lessening of dust storms and possibly more rainfall probably will result from the 1,000-mile tree belt to be planted along the 100th meridian, according to Dr. W. A. Albrecht, head of the soils department of the Missouri College of Agriculture. "The idea of a belt of trees bisecting the central part of the country is not a hare-brained plan...nor is it a waste of taxpayers' money," Dr. Albrecht said. "It represents an honest and intelligent effort to do something about the weather. And after this summer I think everyone is agreed something should be done." Dr. Albrecht has studied efforts in Germany, Russia and Denmark to control weather along lines similar to that of the tree belt. On results in those countries he bases his belief that climatic changes will result here. "Not only will persons living east of the tree belt benefit through more moderate weather, less or complete elimination of the spring dust storms, but those near or in the belt will find that water run-off after rains will be greatly lessened. And this means decreased erosion. The 100th meridian was selected because it is the "deadline" of agriculture, he said. "That meridian divides the two great agricultural sections of the United States," he said. "West of the line you find agriculture limited to grazing except in irrigated districts, while to the east is the great corn and wheat belt, where rainfall is sufficient to make tilling of the soil profitable." (Press.

## Carbon Dioxide

Refrigeration Test shipments of perishables from the Pacific Coast aboard vessels with carbon dioxide refrigeration are graduating from the experimental stage, according to Fred A. Hooper, district manager of a steamship line at Los Angeles. The experiments, which were originated by Thomas G. Plant, operating manager of the line, have been under way for nearly a year. Success, it is stated, has been almost uniform in the transport of butter, eggs and poultry particularly, and at material economy. Insulation needed, Mr. Hooper said, costs a great deal less than when normal refrigeration is used. In addition, only 1,600 pounds of carbon dioxide is needed per carload intercoastal. No extra engineers are used and automatic controls regulate temperatures and humidity. (Ice and Refrigeration, August.)

## Banana Flour

in Germany "The estimated production of banana flour in Germany now is in excess of 1,500 metric tons annually and is on the increase," says the National and American Miller (August). "The banana flour industry is concentrating in Hamburg and it is said that one firm practically controls the trade. This concern is reported to have a special electrical and air-cooling method of manufacture which retains the vitamins of the raw fruit and produces a finer and whiter flour than the competing milling methods, says American Vice Consul Alan N. Steyne, Hamburg. The plantain is used as the raw material for the production of the flour. The fruit is dried and exported in the form of chips, known in Germany as 'plantain schnitzel'. The sources of supply shipping the best material are West Africa, Honduras and Jamaica. Ecuador has commenced shipping both the dried chips and the fresh fruit and is trying to build up a worthwhile trade."



## Savings

## Deposits

That mutual savings banks in the country are recovering lost deposits is evidenced by figures as of last June 30, which showed an increase of \$125,766,227 in the six months, the first gain to be marked up in two years. In the last six months of 1933 the aggregate loss by the country's mutual institutions was \$47,708,187; in the six months ended June 30, 1933, \$337,628,392 and in the last six months of 1932, \$4,296,093. Of significance is the fact that mutual banks in only three states registered declines in deposits in the first half of this year, while in the previous six months (ended December 30, 1933) losses were shown by institutions in 13 states. Mutual savings banks are operating in 18 states. (Press.)

## Missouri

## River Dam

The great dam and reservoir at Fort Peck, at the headwaters of the Missouri River, if it achieves the aims of its engineer designers, will produce a minimum nine-foot depth and an even flow at all times in both the Missouri River and the lower Mississippi. More than that, it is expected to restore millions of acres of land along these rivers which annually are washed out by the spring floods. The great dam, which is now just beginning, is a half a mile wide at its base and 100 feet wide at its 245-foot peak. Behind it there is to be created a lake 175 miles long and capable of impounding 19,000,000 acre feet of water, by all odds the largest flood control reservoir anywhere in the world. If the dam accomplishes what the engineers claim for it, it will feed water into the navigable reaches of the Mississippi, 1,000 miles below it, at an absolutely uniform rate of 30,000 cubic feet per second. This great scheme is the culmination of an argument that has been going on between two groups of engineers for years. One of them contends that the Mississippi is too big to control by any such regulation of the headwaters of its tributaries and that not even the waters of the Missouri can be so controlled as to make it effectively navigable. The other group has insisted that the attempt to control the lower rivers by means of dikes and levels was hopeless and that only by taking hold of the waters at their source could the job be done. (Copyright, 1934, by NANA, Inc.)

## Brazilian

## Coffee Stocks

Estimated stocks of coffee in Brazil on July 1, which is the first day of the new crop year, were 12,099,000 bags, or 25.2 percent less than a year before, according to the New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange, Inc. The total this year amounted to 35,819,000 bags, it was estimated, consisting of 18,615,000 bags of "restricted stocks," 3,062,000 bags in Brazilian ports and an estimated crop ready to move to ports of 14,104,000 bags. This compares with an estimated total of 47,918,000 bags a year ago, consisting of 15,976,000 bags of "restricted stocks", 2,062,000 bags of port stocks and 29,800,000 bags, representing the estimated crop. (Press.)

## R. R. Income

Railroads of the United States increased their operating expenses by 12.4 percent in June, according to the Bureau of Railway Economics. This rise, which resulted from greater expenditures on maintenance and higher wages and costs, offset an upturn of 1.6 percent in gross revenue and a decrease of 6 percent in taxes, with the result that net operating income declined 30.1 percent. (Press.)



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 8--Livestock at Chicago--Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$6.25-\$9.75; cows good \$3.25-\$5.00; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$5.00-\$7.25; vealers good and choice \$5.25-\$6.75; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice \$4.00-\$5.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice \$4.60-\$5.25; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$5.10-\$5.35; 250-350 lbs. good and choice \$5.00-\$5.35; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$3.00-\$4.25. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.90-\$7.75.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.20-7/8-\$1.23-7/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.20 $\frac{1}{4}$ -\$1.24 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.09-\$1.10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chi. \$1.12-\$1.13 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St.Louis \$1.14; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis \$1.05 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 92¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 88-5/8-91-5/8¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 77 $\frac{1}{2}$ -78 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St.Louis 76¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 75 $\frac{1}{2}$ -75 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 51-1/8-52-1/8¢; K.C. 50-52¢; Chi. 49-51 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 99¢-\$1.01; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.97 $\frac{3}{4}$ -\$2.02 $\frac{3}{4}$ .

Virginia and Maryland Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$2.35 per stave barrel in city markets. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 90¢-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1 f.o.b. Northern and Central Points. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.65-\$1.85 carlot sales in Chicago. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes, \$1.75-\$2.25 per six-basket crate in the East; bushel baskets 80¢-\$1.50 f.o.b. Macon. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions brought 90¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers. California stock \$1.15-\$1.40 in the Middle West.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 45 points to 13.46¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 9.34¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 45 points to 13.63¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 48 points to 13.62¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 27 cents; 91 Score, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 90 Score, 26 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15-15 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; S.Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents; Y.Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 23-25 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Standards, 22-22 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents; Firsts, 19-19 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 34

Section 1

August 10, 1934

## CHINESE DROUGHT

Half a million Chinese men, women and children, peasants of Central Anhwei Province, were reported yesterday by Chinese official sources to be facing starvation as a result of the most severe drought in Central China in more than half a century, says a Shanghai report to the Associated Press. Information reaching the National Government from the afflicted province, which appears to be the most severely stricken among those composing the heart of the nation, said that these 500,000 persons are virtually without food and water. The food supplies of the province are continuing to shrink under the merciless heat and drought. These sufferers, while apparently more imminently facing death than those in other areas, are but a small portion of the millions of persons throughout China afflicted in varying degrees.

## FRENCH WHEAT

The French wheat problem has become so serious that Premier Gaston Doumergue will ask the Cabinet today to devise a plan subsidizing wholesale exports and possibly scrapping part of the price-fixing law. Flour millers have defied the law openly, announcing they will buy at prices determined by supply and demand. The government is investigating the millers' action, but the state prosecutor may drop the case in view of some millers' determination to buy no wheat for six months. The government had hoped that the short crop would aid the situation materially, but the wheat holdover, estimated at 75,000,000 bushels, is so large that the market still is flooded. (A.P.)

## CANADIAN CONFERENCE

Premiers of the nine Canadian provinces are to be called into conference by Prime Minister Bennett to discuss revision of Canada's constitution and the establishment of unemployment insurance, according to an Ottawa report to the New York Times. Premier Bennett has intimated that he is willing to consider a state-wide unemployment insurance scheme, although he has insisted that it must be one to which employees also contribute. Provincial autonomy over wages and working conditions, however, stands in the way and Mr. Bennett has made it plain that the premiers must come prepared to discuss revision of the British North American Act, which is Canada's constitution.

## AFRICAN CORN

A shortage of supplies is threatening the South African export trade in corn, says a Cape Town dispatch to the Canadian Press. A central agency representing 15,000 farmers in Transvaal and the Orange Free State contracted to supply to buyers corn for export to Canada and many European countries, but is unable to make deliveries.

## COMMODITY PRICES

Wholesale commodity prices strengthened considerably during the week ended August 4, Commissioner Lubin of the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced yesterday. The bureau's index, based on 1926 averages, rose to 75.1 from 74.7 the previous week. (New York Times.)



## Section 2

**Frozen Food Experiments**      Studies of the suitability of New York State fruits and vegetables for freezing, which began three years ago at the Geneva Experiment Station, will be continued throughout the coming year, according to Dr. U. P. Hedrick, station director. The work this year will center on the study of the freezing of strawberries, raspberries, cherries, peas and corn-on-the-cob. The new sweet corn crosses, Golden Cross Bantam, Bantam Evergreen and others, which are being grown at the station, will be studied in an endeavor to produce an ideal frosted corn-on-the-cob. Also unusually early and late varieties of peas will be quick-frozen experimentally in an effort to find commercial varieties of this vegetable which will extend the pea freezing season in New York State. A considerable tonnage of peas, and some sweet corn and peaches, have been frozen commercially in New York State during the past two seasons. (Ice and Refrigeration, August.)

**Living Costs**      The cost of living for wage earners increased 0.4 percent in July, mainly because of the rise in the price of food, according to the indices computed by the National Industrial Conference Board. The cost of living in July was 5.2 percent higher than in July 1933, and 10.6 percent higher than the low point touched in April 1933, but 20.9 percent below July 1929. "Food prices advanced 0.9 percent during July," the board says, "or more than is usually observed during this period of the year. Since April 1933, food prices have risen 21.5 percent, and since July 1933 4.9 percent. They were, however, still 30.7 percent below July 1929. Rents were up 0.2 percent in July and since the beginning of the year, when the upward movement began, are up 3.2 percent..." (Press.)

**Food Problems**      How to get an adequate supply of meat and milk for Russia's 170,000,000 inhabitants is the chief problem the Congress of Soviets will face when it convenes in Moscow next January for the seventh time, says a Moscow report to the Associated Press. The Russian Communist party feels that it has handled the grain-production plan successfully through its collective and State farms and the supervision of individual grain farms. Production in the heavy industries also has been satisfactory on the whole. But while the drive for more iron, steel and wheat has been getting results, the livestock situation has become alarmingly worse. Peasants kill their calves and will not raise them and turn them over to the government at state prices in spite of the intensive propaganda campaign carried on since the collectivization of farms began in 1930. There were 52,100,000 cattle in Soviet Russia in 1930. According to figures that Joseph Stalin gave the Communist party congress last winter, the number has dropped to 38,600,000. Horses, sheep, goats and hogs have also declined. M. Chernov, Commissar of Agriculture, is urging that concessions be made to peasants to reward them for keeping their cows bred and raising calves to be turned over to the state. He advocates the exemption of peasants who raise calves from meat and milk levies for two years on condition that they sell the calves to the government for state prices. Mr. Chernov says the land in Russia devoted to meadows and pastures has declined from 128,000,000 acres in 1928 to 100,000,000 acres this year.



# Meat Use Increases

The meat packing industry of the United States has marketed about 8 percent more meat so far in 1934 than in the corresponding period last year, has paid producers \$65,000,000, or 14 percent more, for their livestock than in the first six months of 1933, and has accomplished these results on a profit of a fraction of a cent per pound of product sold, William Whitfield Woods, president of the Institute of American Meat Packers, Chicago, told the members of the National Association of Retail Meat Dealers recently. Mr. Woods said that our consumption per capita of beef this year will surpass the average beef ration of the famous beef eaters of England, although it will hardly approach the high average of 74 pounds of beef per person per year set by Americans in the five years ended in 1909. Last year beef consumption dropped to 54 pounds per capita. The consumption of all meats last year was about 143 pounds per capita, almost exactly the amount eaten per person in 1900, and a little more than the quantity consumed per capita in 1910, although there were several high years preceding 1910 which sent the 1905-1909 average up to 148 1/2 pounds.

# Fire Hazards

The Chicago Journal of Commerce (August 6), says editorially: "...Some who are ever so careful about safeguarding their own properties from fire damage will thoughtlessly toss a lighted cigarette or cigar butt or a lighted match on the roadside, where, in the parched condition coming out of the summer drought, a fire may be easily started, razing farms and even forests. The danger of severe conflagration and the attendant damage to property from this type of carelessness comes vividly to mind when one scans the figures of comparative fire losses in the United States and Europe. In 1927 America's fire losses were seven times as great as the losses in all the rest of the civilized world--\$5 per capita. For comparison: France had a fire loss in the same year of 49 cents; Great Britain, 33 cents; Germany, 28 cents; Italy, 25 cents; Switzerland, 15 cents; and Holland, 11 cents per capita..."

# U.S.-Spanish Trade

"Both Spain and the United States benefited by the remarkable improvement in trade between the two countries in the first half of the year, which augurs well for the new commercial accord being negotiated in Washington by Ambassador Calderon of Spain," says William P. Carney in a Madrid report to the New York Times (August 4). "According to U.S. Department of Commerce figures received in Spain by Ambassador Bowers of the United States, the value of exports from the United States to Spain during the first four months of this year was nearly double their value in the corresponding period last year. In the first four months of 1934 the value of exports from the United States to Spain was more than \$14,000,000, compared with \$8,999,999 in the first four months of 1933. Spain's exports to the United States in the first four months of this year amounted to nearly twice their value in the corresponding period last year. The imports from Spain in the first four months of 1933 were valued at \$3,674,000, compared with \$6,984,000 in the same period in 1934. Spain exports fruits and wines to the United States, while 70 percent of all the cotton she imports comes from America..."



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 9--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$6.00-\$9.50; cows good \$3.25-\$5.00; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$5.00-\$7.25; vealers good and choice \$5.25-\$6.75; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice \$4.00-\$5.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice \$4.65-\$5.25; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$5.15-\$5.40; 250-350 lbs good and choice \$5.10-\$5.40; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$3.00-\$4.25. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.90-\$7.75.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.22-7/8-\$1.25-7/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.21-1/8-\$1.25-5/8; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.09-\$1.11; Chi. \$1.14; St.Louis \$1.14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis \$1.06-\$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 93¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 90 $\frac{1}{4}$ -93 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 78 $\frac{3}{4}$ -82¢; St.Louis 79-80¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ -78 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No. 2 white oats, Minneap. 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ -54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; K.C. 52-55 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Chi. 52-53 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St.Louis 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 99¢-\$1.02; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.98-\$2.03.

Virginia and Maryland Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$2.15 per stave barrel in city markets. New Jersey stock 85¢-\$1.05 sacked per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1 f.o.b. Northern and Central points. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.60-\$1.70 carlot sales in Chicago. Georgia medium to large sizes, Elberta peaches brought \$1.50-\$2.25 per six-basket crate in the East. North Carolina stock all sizes, \$1.50-\$2.60 per bushel basket in city markets; \$1.50-\$1.65 f.o.b. Candor. Massachusetts Yellow varieties of onions ranged 90¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in city markets; California stock \$0.90-\$1.30 in the Middle West.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 17 points to 13.63¢ per pound. On the same day one year ago the price was 9.37¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 19 points to 13.82¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 17 points to 13.79¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 27 cents; 91 Score, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 90 Score, 26 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15-15 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; S.Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents; Y.Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 24-26 cents; Standards, 22-23 cents; Firsts, 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ -20 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 35

Section 1

August 11, 1934

**BRITISH COTTON YARN** British mill owners in Manchester were notified yesterday that the government at London had made an agreement with Germany whereby after August 20 payment would be insured for any goods sold to Germany, says a wireless to the New York Times. It was the hope of the government that this arrangement would put an end to the deadlock between German and Manchester mills, arising from the non-payment of more than 1,500,000 pounds for yarns already delivered, but a mass meeting of spinners, merchants and exporters unanimously decided last night to continue the present suspension of business with Germany until a further agreement was reached to provide for the payment of outstanding debts.

**SOVIET GRAIN** Fifty-one percent of Russia's total grain acreage was harvested by May 9 and 35 percent of the grain cut has already been threshed, officials reports said yesterday, according to a Moscow report to the Associated Press. No figures were given showing the yield in bushels. Collective agencies have already reaped 53 percent of their grain crops, state farms 42 percent and individual farmers 49 percent of their crops. Approximately 105,500,000 acres of grain had been harvested May 9. Government officials have repeatedly said the grain yield would equal that of last year, despite drier weather in some sections, because of a better organization for cultivation.

**GERMAN FEED GRAINS** A definite shortage of feed grains in Germany was reported yesterday by foreign agricultural observers returning from a tour of the provinces, says a Berlin dispatch to the Associated Press. This shortage, and the consequent fear that farmers would use bread grains to feed livestock, in the opinion of these observers, prompted the new system of compulsory delivery of cereals introduced by the Nazi government. The compulsory delivery is closely patterned after Russian methods, requiring farmers to deliver by specified dates at the beginning of the new crop year fixed percentages of the cereals delivered in the old crop year.

**FRENCH WHEAT.** A triple program was adopted yesterday by the French Cabinet to relieve the serious situation brought about by a domestic wheat surplus and a fixed domestic price, says a Paris report to the Associated Press. Subsidized exports, white bread and the feeding of cereals to cattle are the main points of the plan, which is being put into effect as the result of protests from both mills and markets. Millers, who have been openly defying the government's efforts to impose a minimum price, may have to pay a bigger tax on millings to underwrite the export premiums, and growers will have to accept a lowered extraction ratio.



## Section 2

**Raw Materials**            The rise which has taken place in prices of raw materials, in So. America which is spelling trouble for Germany, is bringing a rapid improvement in the position of the South American "ABC" countries. Better prices which these countries, Argentina, Brazil and Chile, are able to obtain for their exports abroad not only are increasing their purchasing power for foreign goods but the trade balance accruing in their favor is mounting still more rapidly. This has a definite bearing on their foreign obligations inasmuch as a greater proportion of foreign exchange is thus being made available for debt service. These countries first came to grief with respect to their obligations abroad because of the same transfer difficulty which now embarrasses Germany. Primary prices had fallen much more rapidly than the finished and semi-finished goods which were bought abroad so that the trade balances were not sufficiently large to provide exchange for debt service. Foreign trade reports from the ABC nations now show gains in the export surpluses of 75 percent in the case of Argentina, 32 percent for Brazil and 156 percent for Chile as compared with last year. Value of exports have increased anywhere from 27 to 65 percent. The resulting increase of purchasing power is reflected by a 13 percent gain in imports for Argentina and 11 percent for Brazil. Chile alone shows a decline, imports being 6 percent lower. (Wall Street Journal, August 8.)

**New Floor Patterns**            "Floors in 30 rooms of the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin, have been laid with a varied and colorful assortment of American woods to demonstrate and test the merits of different patterns and finishes, as well as to acquaint the general public with the attractions of different species and types of grain," says the American Builder (August). "The materials range from straight-grained quarter-sawn western hemlock laid up in conventional lengths to walnut laid in 8-inch built-up squares. Three main types of flooring are now in place throughout the Forest Products Laboratory as a whole—wood flooring strips and blocks, pressed wood fiber tile, and linoleum, the last-named qualifying very appropriately among forest products because of its large content of cork, wood flour, and forest-produced resins and oils. All of the floors were laid over concrete of average flatness..."

**British Trade Policy**        "What has been the result for British trade of the change in policy actuated by the Government in 1931?" says the Industrial Chemist (London) for August. "An informative, if somewhat non-committal memorandum on this question has been issued by the Federation of British industries. This country's policy has developed under four heads—tariffs, inter-imperial agreements (at Ottawa), reciprocal trading agreements with foreign countries, and the rehabilitation of Britain's agriculture. It is pointed out that these different heads of our national policy have in large measure been developed independently of one another, with the result that in certain directions they have tended to conflict. Domestic agricultural policy, for example, has been elaborated without any clear conception of its relation to our future overseas policy. A balance will have to be struck between the extent to which this country is to be made self-



sufficing in agricultural production, and that to which export trades are to be stimulated by agreements designed to facilitate the export of British products in exchange for food and raw materials. Only when the economic limits of agricultural development in Great Britain have been envisaged will it be possible to pursue a coordinated policy to increase British exports..."

**Cactus for Cattle** Cowboys of the Southwest have traded lariats for blow torches in an effort to beat the drought. The Mexican cactus, in normal times the great nuisance of the range country, has become almost the sole food of starving herds of cattle. Crews of cow hands armed with blow torches burn the sharp spines from the cactus, which thrives in the desert heat that destroyed the grass. Cactus feeding is being practiced widely in Texas and New Mexico. In Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas, feeders are chopping trees down, usually willows or elms. The cattle eat the tender twigs and leaves. Many thousands of cattle have died where even such makeshift feed was not available. (United Press.)

**Steel in July** Steel output in July fell to the lowest level recorded since April 1933, according to the monthly report of the American Iron and Steel Institute, which shows the calculated output for all companies at 1,472,584 tons. This is less than half the output of 3,015,972 tons recorded in June and compares with 3,168,354 tons produced in July last year. The approximate daily output in July was 58,903 tons, slightly better than half the 115,999-ton daily output in June, and comparing with 126,734 tons produced daily in July 1933, the record month for 1933. On the 1934 basis, July operations were at 26.75 percent of capacity, comparing with 52.68 percent in June and 58.30 percent on the 1933 basis in July last year.

**Small Retail Business** The small, retail business man was shown by Department of Commerce figures recently to have maintained almost the same number of stores in 1933 as in 1929, according to the Associated Press. The report of the Bureau of the Census on its preliminary survey of retail trade disclosed that in 1933 there were 1,520 small businesses, while the 1929 total was 1,543,000. Retail sales in 1933 totaled nearly \$25,750,000, compared with more than \$49,000,000 in 1929. Employment of full-time workers declined from 3,833,000 to 2,691,000 in 1933, a drop of about 30 percent. Part-time employees, however, increased 8 percent to about 831,000, while store owners actually working in the store increased to 1,572,000, a gain of 4 percent. Combining full-time and part-time employment, the census shows that in the first quarter of 1933 total employment in retail trades was 97 percent of 1921; in the second quarter, 98 percent; in the third quarter, 101 percent; and in the last quarter, 104 percent. Payrolls dropped 43.7 percent to \$2,922,000,000. Subject to minor adjustment, the census figured the annual compensation of the average full-time employee, which in 1929 was \$1,312, decreased to \$992. The report also found the wage cost was a larger percentage of operating expenses than in 1929.







# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 36

Section 1

August 13, 1934

## MIDWEST WEATHER

Heavy rains, in some cases more than four inches, late Saturday night and yesterday broke the drought over most of the Corn Belt, says a Chicago report to the New York Times. More showers were forecast for that area and Chicago early today. Those States favored by precipitation, which drowned an army of chinch bugs and revived withered crops, were Ohio, Northeastern Kentucky, Indiana, Northern Illinois, Northeastern Missouri, Northern and Eastern Iowa, and Eastern Nebraska. The southern part of the Corn Belt, including Northern Missouri, Western Iowa, Eastern Nebraska and Northeastern Kansas, is due for another drenching.

## CANADIAN AGRICULTURE

Despite the sensational recent rise in wheat prices, Canada has a drought and destitution problem in some parts of its west as serious as that in the United States, according to an Ottawa report to the New York Times. As one measure to deal with it, the Dominion Government has just been asked to finance the slaughter and processing of 100,000 head of cattle in Alberta alone. In the dry areas, in which there is no feed, it is proposed that the government should purchase the stock and convert it into dessicated meat for hog feeding, recouping itself by means of a processing tax of a quarter of a cent a pound on all cattle processed during the next two years.

## NEW YORK HAY CROP

New York State's hay crop, the foundation of milk production, will be 21 percent below last year's crop and only two-thirds of the 1927-31 average, the State Department of Agriculture and Markets announced yesterday, says an Albany report to the Associated Press. R. L. Gillette, agricultural statistician, estimated the production at 3,637,000 tons, the lightest since 1966. "Moreover," he said, "there is much less than the usual proportion of clover in the crop harvested, which will complicate the problem of protein feeds next winter." Pastures, it was pointed out, are the poorest, with the exception of last August, in the 68 years that records have been maintained.

## UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

Figures putting the jobless at 10,300,000, recently issued by the American Federation of Labor, were declared 3,000,000 too high yesterday by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in its weekly Washington review. The review stated editorially that industry had done well if it had put only 1,000,000 back to work in the last year, as the federation claims, because, it said, industry had employed during the entire depression period more people than it could use. (Press.)

## RURAL SALES

Daily average sales of general merchandise in small towns and rural areas, according to reports representing about one-fifth of the retail business of this type in communities of less than 30,000 population, showed a decrease of 15.5 percent in dollar volume from June to July, the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce announced yesterday. (Press.)



## Section 2

Society and Science                      Nature (London) for July 28 says editorially: "...The idea of regarding society itself as a proper object for scientific research is new to many, but is quite definitely forced on us by such surveys as that carried out by Professor Huxley and the situation it reveals. Moreover, the scientific worker can scarcely be in any doubt that a scientific attitude to social questions is better than an unscientific one. There are many problems presented in education, the penal system, public health and industrial welfare, in which a proper supply of scientifically ascertained facts is an indispensable preliminary to wise action. Notably does the study of population with the view of controlling it offer attractive possibilities. The merest glimpse of the possibilities of improving the quality of human life in this way which emerges from such a survey should be sufficient incentive to the mobilization of scientific forces to this end. To fill in the gaps which exist in research by national direction and planning of research is a first step, and may demand, as suggested by Professor Huxley, the creation of a social advisory committee and research council corresponding to those responsible for planning and financing research in the economic field. Such a council would not only be able to plan out the lines of an adequate campaign of research, but would assist in obtaining the necessary supply of research workers trained in the social sciences by modifying both the distribution of scholarships awarded in different branches of science and the science curricula in schools and universities..."

New Theory of Evolution                      A new kind of porphyrin, the basic substance in the red coloring matter of blood and also of chlorophyll, the green coloring matter of plants, is leading some scientists to conclude that plants and animals may have sprung from the same ancestor in the beginning of evolution. Dr. Calvin R. Coulter of Columbia University described his investigations of porphyrin with a spectroscope before the Second Annual International Spectroscopy Conference meeting at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Porphyrin was extracted from cytochrome, a substance found in nearly every living thing dependent on oxygen. Combining porphyrin with various metals Dr. Coulter was able to produce light spectra which he could analyze in his spectroscope. The spectroscope is now useful, he declared, for studying living matter almost as easily as it has previously been possible to study inanimate things like metals, gases and liquids. (Science Service, July 20.)

Belgian Trade                      Trade conditions in Belgium are growing steadily worse, says a Brussels report to the New York Times. Badly hit by tariffs and contingents, commerce is further hampered by the fact that several of Belgium's best customers cannot pay for goods purchased owing to restrictions on sending money out of their countries. The Association of Transport Merchants at Antwerp has complained that the government has "contingented" 36 articles, thus paralyzing the trade of the port. However, the government continues to favor the agricultural interests by its system of tariffs and contingents.



**Moley on Inflation** Raymond Moley, editor of Today, in "Some Notes on Confidence" in the August 11 issue, says: "A bit of common sense is sufficient to dispose of the complaint that there is danger of inflation. Inflation is as much a political as an economic question. Those who favor inflation depend, almost entirely, upon widespread discontent, with falling prices for agricultural products, to enable them to make headway. All of the evidence is that agricultural conditions, despite the drought, are improved this year. Insofar as there is current talk of inflation, it comes largely from speculative interests. This, it is certain, will have little influence upon the course of the Administration's policies. Considering all the elements that have made up the support for demands for inflation, such arguments as they advance have less substance or validity now than ever. For that reason, a fair estimate of the facts indicates that inflation is less imminent now than at any time since President Roosevelt was inaugurated."

**Rehabilitation in Texas** Under the Federal rural rehabilitation program approximately 30,000 families, embracing more than 100,000 people in Texas, will have been provided with comfortable farm homes and sufficient land for them to cultivate by the end of the current year, according to J. E. Stanford, head of the rural rehabilitation relief department of the State Relief Commission, who had made a report to Lawrence Westbrook, of Washington, assistant national director. The relief agency provides each family with milch cows, laying hens, hogs for winter meat, brood sows, work stock, feed and seed for fall and spring planting. The purchasing is now in progress. It is estimated that each of the 30,000 rehabilitated rural homes will cost about \$250 to repair and start the family on the road to self-sustenance. The allotted expenditures for Texas for August for this work is \$250,000. There are 37 supervisors in the field and as the rehabilitation work progresses this force will be increased to 75, it was stated. (Wall Street Journal, August 9.)

**Urge Package Labeling** "Even though the proposed food and drug legislation is temporarily dead, there is agitation abroad for more informative labeling of packaged goods," says Food Industries (August). "Purchasing agents of more than 400 cities have asked NRA to make quality labeling of commodities in sealed containers mandatory. This request was incorporated in a resolution passed by the 'government group' of National Purchasing Agents Association in its recent annual conference. Moreover, one branch of the food industry, the canners, have urged immediate institution of a survey to the end that more informative labeling may be brought about for canned foods...The special standards committee appointed under the canners' code asked that Federal funds be made available for establishing the grades contemplated by the McNary-Mapes amendment to the food and drugs act. The canners believe that scientific work done in the development and trial of such standards will establish the feasibility of additional standards. The committee has secured permission to use the services of National Canners Association to carry on an extensive study of label information, the scope and character of which is to be developed with the advice of the Consumers Advisory Board of the NRA."



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 10--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$6.00-\$9.50; cows good \$3.25-\$4.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$5.00-\$7.25; vealers good and choice \$5.25-\$6.75; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice \$4.00-\$5.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice \$4.65-\$5.25; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$5.15-\$5.40; 250-350 lbs good and choice \$5.10-\$5.40; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$3.00-\$4.25. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.65-\$7.75.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.22 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.19-7/8-\$1.23-7/8; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.12 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; Chi. \$1.14 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St.Louis \$1.14; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis \$1.06 $\frac{1}{4}$ -\$1.06 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 92¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 89-92¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 83-84¢; St.Louis 81-81 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 79 $\frac{1}{2}$ -80 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 80 $\frac{1}{4}$ -81¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 53-7/8-54-7/8¢; K.C. 53-57 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Chi. 52 $\frac{3}{4}$ -54 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St.Louis 52-53¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. \$1.00-\$1.02; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$2.00 $\frac{1}{4}$ -\$2.04 $\frac{1}{4}$ .

Virginia and Maryland East Shore Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$2.25 per stave barrel in city markets. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 85¢-\$1.40 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.55-\$1.75 carlot sales in Chicago. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes, brought \$1.50-\$2.25 per six-basket crate in the East. North Carolina Elbertas, all sizes, \$1.50-\$2.50 per bushel basket in consuming centers; \$1.50-1.65 f.o.b. Candor. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions brought 90¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in terminal markets. California yellows \$1-\$1.25 in Chicago and St. Louis.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 18 points to 13.45¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price was 8.99¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 19 points to 13.63¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 21 points to 13.58¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 27 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 91 Score, 27 cents; 90 Score, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15-15 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; S.Daisies, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents; Y.Americas, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -14 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 24-26 cents; Standards, 22-23 cents; Firsts, 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ -20 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 37

Section 1

August 14, 1934

## DROUGHT RELIEF

President Roosevelt made the drought his primary concern yesterday and studied the advisability of enlarging the relief program. He conferred with Secretary Wallace and Aubrey Williams, Acting FERA Administrator, on immediate steps to aid destitute farmers and protect consumers against excessive rises in the cost of foodstuffs as a result of the drought. It was indicated rather definitely that Mr. Roosevelt planned to call a conference later this week of all officials concerned with the drought problem and possibly issue a statement outlining administrative plans. (New York Times.)

## MIDWEST RAINS

Week-end rains continued yesterday in the most severely hit of the Middle Western drought regions and these presage general relief from the heat in the entire country, W. P. Day, government meteorologist, said yesterday, according to a Chicago dispatch to the New York Times. Although the rain came too late to help major crops in four of the heat-suffering states, it served to wet the dust, and in the Nebraska Panhandle farmers reported that a fair corn crop might be salvaged.

## WORLD WHEAT

Obtaining commitments for acreage reduction from the big European producing countries as well as from the chief exporting nations appeared yesterday to be the first objective of the world wheat conference, says a London report to the Associated Press. It was learned from a private source that acreage reduction was the first point on the closely guarded agenda of the international gathering which opens today. The new scheme for quarterly export quotas, it was stated, probably would not be reached for several days.

## J. R. MOHLER

Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry and examiner in veterinary medicine for the District of Columbia, was elected president yesterday of the Twelfth International Congress of Veterinarians. He is the first American to hold the office. (Associated Press.)

## HIDE LOANS

Plans for a \$10,000,000 RFC loan to stabilize the hide market, demoralized by Federal cattle purchases in the drought area, neared completion last night. The RFC, it was authoritatively reported, has decided to allot necessary funds, but a formal announcement will be withheld until machinery for floating the loan has been set in motion. (Press.)

## PARK PROGRAM

Establishment of parks and recreation sites, where factory workers and needy children can spend their vacations at a reasonable cost, is the object of a program being carried to completion by the National Park Service and the ERA, it was announced yesterday. (Press.)



## Section 2

**TVA Cooperatives**        The TVA revealed recently that the cooperative movement in the Tennessee Valley is growing rapidly, under sponsorship of a subsidiary organization, the Tennessee Valley Associated Cooperatives, says a report to the United Press. Nine cooperatives have been launched, and four more are being formed. There are now 1,953 families joined in the associations, and 3,750 are expected to join before the end of the year. The cooperatives are sponsoring fruit, berry and vegetable canning, seed potato cultivation, flour grinding, dairying, and handicraft textiles.

**Egg Quality Study**        "Since July 1 a unique activity has been going on at the Kimber Poultry Breeding Farm at Niles (California)," says Nulaid News (July). "There employees are not only doing the usual trapnesting and egg weighing, but are now breaking open about 20,000 eggs to determine which birds lay high-quality eggs and which birds lay eggs of inferior quality. They are endeavoring to remove all possible guesswork and get the facts, using several eggs from each hen in the study. As far as is known, this is the most extensive series of egg-quality measurements ever made by a poultry breeding establishment. More than 6,000 observations per day are being made...After the eggs are broken, the yolks are separated from the whites and then 'eased' onto a shelf by an ingenious arrangement. Then the diameter and height of the yolk are measured. This gives an indication as to the strength of the yolk membrane. The white or albumen of the egg drops into a strainer with holes large enough to let the watery white pass through into a graduated cylinder where it is measured. The firm white is then added and the percent of firm white computed...Such other measurements as shell weight and thickness are included in the study..."

**Appalachian Trail**        "With the exception of 138 miles, the entire Appalachian Trail stretching from Maine to Georgia, a distance of 2,052 miles, has been cleared and marked, according to reports from Knoxville, Tenn.," says Manufacturers Record (August). "Of the 138 miles yet to be cleared and marked, 40 miles are in the eastern end of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, where a trail is now being built by the National Park Service. The trail from the park to the southern end of the route in Georgia is complete..."

**June Exports**        Gross exports in June increased to every grand division over June 1933, and to every subdivision except France, Germany, Hongkong, Italy and the Philippine Islands, the Department of Commerce has announced. Gross imports increased in June 1934 over June 1933 from all grand divisions except Europe and South America, and from all countries except Argentina, British India, Chile, Colombia, Irish Free State, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Gross exports increased to every grand division during the six months ended June 30, for a total gain of \$366,932,980. Gross imports also increased from every grand division during that period, for a total rise of \$271,237,649. (New York Times.)



Consumer                      Arthur Feiler, writing on "The Consumer in Economic Representation Policy" in Social Research (August), says: "...Who or what is the consumer? Apparently Mr. Everybody. But the difficulty is that this Mr. Everybody is always the 'forgotten man'--not only in the public discussion but also in his own thoughts, because he usually forgets himself. 'Consumption is the sole end and purpose of all production,' says Adam Smith. But while it is true that everybody is a consumer, it is also true that everybody is a producer, and the consequence is that every man values his producer's interest above his consumer's interest. For he regards it as easier to work for an increase in his income and consequently in his purchasing power than, with his nominal income remaining the same, to increase his real purchasing power in a struggle against the producers. Housewives, rentiers and state officials have been classed as pure consumers, but even this is not quite correct according to the precise meaning of the word. In any case, the great mass of consumers appears as a rule in the garb of producers. Their peculiar consumers' interest they recognize generally only in times of especial emergency; in times of extremely high prices, when in the face of a sudden rise in the prices of necessities the mass of consumers are unable to effect a simultaneous increase in their nominal income in order to maintain their real purchasing power; or in times of severe economic depression, which diminishes the nominal and real income of large groups who, despite all their effort, are unable to effect an adjustment..."

San Salvador                  Reciprocity will be the keynote of the future tariff  
Tariff Plan                  policy of El Salvador, according to a recently issued executive decree putting into effect a law providing for flexible rates to be determined by the President, says a San Salvador report to the New York Times. The decree announces that it is considered equitable to distribute imports in accordance with purchases of El Salvador's export products. Three classes of tariffs, a minimum, a medium and a maximum, are established to accomplish this end. Authority is given to the President in case of necessity and for special reasons to apply the minimum rates to countries whose trade would classify them in the medium and maximum grades. Such action must have the approval of the Cabinet. When a country enacts tariff laws that affect Salvadorean products or restrict their importation the President is authorized to apply to that country either the medium or maximum rates.

Food Canning                  With the dual aim of taking cattle out of the drought  
for Relief                  area and of preparing for a winter of need, the FERA, in cooperation with two other Federal agencies, is engaged in the largest food conservation operation in this country's history, Acting Administrator Aubrey Williams announced recently. He said cattle from the drought areas are being processed into canned beef and veal sides at the rate of 51,000 a day. Thousands of cans are being turned out of packing plants hourly for distribution among the unemployed. Approximately 12,000 beef cattle are being slaughtered and processed daily in packing plants operated in 20 states either wholly or in part as relief projects. Commercial packers are processing and canning about 39,000 head a day on orders from the Government. (Press.)



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 13--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$5.75-\$9.25; cows good \$3.00-\$4.75; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$5.00-\$7.25; vealers good and choice \$5.00-\$6.50; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice \$4.00-\$5.50. Hogs 160-200 lbs good and choice \$4.75-\$5.40; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$5.25-\$5.50; 250-350 lbs good and choice \$5.30-\$5.65; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$3.25-\$4.50. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.15-\$7.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.16-7/8-\$1.19-7/8; No. 2 Am.Dur. Minneap. \$1.14-5/8-\$1.18-5/8; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.04-\$1.06 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Chi. \$1.08-\$1.09; St.Louis \$1.08-\$1.08 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis \$1.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.00 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 87¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 86 $\frac{3}{4}$ -89 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 78-79¢; St.Louis 77-77 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 75-76 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 50-7/8-51-7/8¢; K.C. 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ -53¢; Chi. 48-50¢; St.Louis 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. 99¢-\$1.00; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.97-\$2.01.

Virginia and Maryland Eastern Shore Cobbler potatoes ranged \$1.25-\$2.25 per stave barrel in city markets. New Jersey sacked Cobblers 85¢-\$1.35 per 100 pounds in eastern cities. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.60-\$1.65 carlot sales in Chicago. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions brought 85¢-\$1.05 per 50 lb. sack in terminal markets. California yellows \$1.10-\$1.25 in Chicago and St. Louis. Georgia Elberta peaches, medium to large sizes, brought \$1.75-\$2.12 $\frac{1}{2}$  per six basket crate in New York City. North Carolina Elbertas, all sizes, \$1.75-\$2.50 per bushel basket in consuming centers.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in ten designated markets advanced 4 points to 13.30¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 8.70¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 5 points to 13.48¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange were unchanged at 13.43¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 27 $\frac{1}{4}$  cents; 91 Score, 27 cents; 90 Score, 26 cents. Wholesale prices off No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15 to 15 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; S.Daisies, 15 cents; Y.Americas, 15 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 24-26¢; Standards, 22-23 cents; Firsts, 20 cents.  
(Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 38

Section 1

August 15, 1934

**GOLD SHIPMENT** Notice that the United States is as ready to give up gold as to receive it, under the new and modified gold standard adopted last January 31, was conveyed to the foreign exchange markets of the world yesterday when \$1,000,000 gold was scheduled for shipment to France by the Guaranty Trust Company as a pure arbitrage transaction in foreign exchange. The shipment is the first "exchange" export of gold under the new gold standard and the first such gold transaction to be arranged in this country since April 1933. (Press.)

**GERMAN FOOD CONTROL** Prohibitive tariffs on grain imports have been abolished in Germany by a decree effective yesterday in what is regarded as preparation to compensate for the crop shortages caused by drought, according to a Berlin report to the Associated Press. The decree provides that wheat, spelt, barley and oats will be admitted duty free, subject at all times, however, to permission and regulation by the Agricultural Ministry.

A Berlin wireless to the New York Times says that Germany's economic stress has caused the imposing of further drastic regulation of raw materials and food. Because of the shortage of potatoes the trade in them has been put under government control. New regulations include the prohibition of the industrial use of potatoes until September 1 and the establishment of minimum prices.

**TVA WORK** The Tennessee Valley Authority has sold its entire existing electric capacity, and construction work on its two new dams is proceeding ahead of schedule, David E. Lilienthal, director of the authority, declared yesterday on the eve of sailing for England and Ireland to study government electric development projects. While not all of the existing capacity is actually in use, Mr. Lilienthal said, all of the current from the Wilson Dam, the sole present source of supply, is either sold or allocated. As an indication of how the lower rates of the authority are fostering the use of electricity, Mr. Lilienthal cited an 83 percent increase in domestic use of electricity in Tupelo, Mississippi, the first municipality to make a contract with the authority. (Press.)

**COTTON PURCHASE** Contracts for 59,714 bales of American<sup>upland</sup> cotton for immediate delivery were awarded 21 companies yesterday by the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation. The cotton will be made into mattresses and comforts for the needy. It will be fabricated in women's work-rooms by persons receiving relief through work projects under State emergency relief administrations. (A.P.)



## Section 2

Plywood Research      "Valuable suggestions for extending the application of that interesting material, plywood, reside in the data supplied by the Forest Products Laboratory tests, published recently," says an editorial in Eng. News Record (August 13) by overcoming many of the limitations arising from the grain weakness of ordinary lumber, the material creates its own special field of application. Building and construction already have discovered many of its possibilities, though doubtless more remain to be explored. The experiments now recorded bring out structural qualities which, with further development work, as on nailing and connections, give promise of extending the range of economy of wood construction. The new characteristics realized through the partial neutralization of grain effect are illustrated in the composite girder structures tested, and their value is shown by the high results obtained in respect to strength and rigidity. There is a field for both research and practical study in discovering the fullest and best ways of putting these characteristics to work."

Cold Milk Delivery      Ice and Cold Storage (London) for August says: "Considerable interest has been shown in a 'cold delivery' service inaugurated by R. M. Love, dairy farmer of Fromwell, Sussex. Cows are milked by machinery and the milk is passed through an ethyl chloride cooler, being cooled down to about 44 degrees F. It is filled direct from the cooler into paper cartons which are sealed by a machine. The cartons are then placed in a box fitted with insulated sides, in the lid of which is a packet to contain a little carbon dioxide. The solid CO<sub>2</sub> maintains the contents of the box at or below 50 degrees F. for 24 hours. On the present basis of delivery costs, it is estimated that the new system effects a saving of 1 1/4 pence per gallon. Incidentally, the housewife can place the cartons in a domestic refrigerator or a pail of cold water, thus extending the keeping period, and eliminating a second delivery. The new shape of the cartons, the quick and efficient method of sealing, and the use of the insulated box and solid CO<sub>2</sub> have opened up entirely new and revolutionary possibilities in milk production and distribution."

Drought Effect on Business      "The effects of the drought upon business activity in the Northwest have just begun to show up in Federal Reserve bank statistics," says Russell B. Porter in the New York Times (August 10). "Latest available figures for retail trade in the Ninth Reserve district reveal that the only decreases in June business compared with a year ago were reported from the drought area. North Dakota reported an 8 percent decline and eastern South Dakota a 5 percent decrease. All other parts of the district reported increases ranging from 2 percent in parts of Minnesota and Montana affected by the drought to as much as 36 percent in non-drought areas of Wisconsin and Michigan, which are part of the reserve district but are not Northwestern States. Federal Reserve figures show that the cash income to northwestern farmers from seven important items was 27 percent smaller in June than a year ago... Bank deposits have continued to rise in all states of the district except North and South Dakota, which have suffered the worst of the drought. Member bank deposits went up between March and June by \$29,000,000, indicating an increase of about \$40,000,000 for all banks in the district..."



**Pig-Testing  
Station**

"An important decision of interest to farmers, especially to breeders of pure bred bacon hogs, has been reached by the Minister of Agriculture of Quebec," says the Journal of Agriculture (Quebec) for August 11. "This regards the establishment of stations for the fattening of young hogs according to the latest methods of scientific feeding. A similar system has been operating in Denmark for a long time, and that country now possesses a great many of these testing stations which, no doubt, account, to no small extent, for the high reputation of Danish bacon on European markets, especially the United Kingdom market...The Department of Agriculture of Quebec, with the cooperation of the Federal Department of Agriculture, has recently established at Princeville, Arthabaska County, a pig testing station where 10-week old pigs will be shipped to be methodically fattened until they reach 200 pounds, at which time they will be slaughtered. All the pigs will be fed in exactly the same way..."

**U.S. Exports**

United States exports during the first six months of 1934 crossed the billion dollar mark, indicating that the country had pulled out of the depression years for exports of 1932 and 1933, when total exports in each year fell below the two billion dollar mark, says a Washington report to the Associated Press. Compilation of the six months period showed that the United States exported \$1,012,367,000 of goods and imported \$829,903,000 during that period. Nearly half of the exports, about \$475,000,000, went to Europe, while United States imports from Europe amounted to about \$240,000,000. The United States sold \$157,831,000 during that period to Latin America and took \$178,676,000 worth of imports from Latin America. Sales to Canada were about \$143,000,000 and imports from Canada were about \$109,000,000. The United States big trade year since the war was 1929, when it sold \$5,240,995,000 worth of products abroad and imported \$4,339,361,000.

**French  
Birth Rate**

"The bureau of statistics has published a final report on the vital statistics of France in 1933," says the Paris correspondent of the Journal of the American Medical Association in the August 4 issue. "The general results are frankly unfavorable. There were 40,000 fewer births than in 1932, 200 more deaths and 600 more marriages. The excess of births over deaths was reduced to 21,600, as compared with 61,400 in 1932. The birth rate was reduced from 17.3 to 16.3 per thousand of population; the mortality remained stationary, and the number of marriages showed but slight variation (15.1, as against 15.0). The reduced birth rate is manifest chiefly in the southern departments of France. The central region shows little variation over the previous year. The excess of births over deaths is found chiefly in the departments of the North, West and East and has been so every year for a considerable period. It is surprising that the warmer regions of the south have fewer births, for Italy, under similar conditions, has an excess of births over deaths..."



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 14--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$5.75-\$9.25; cows good \$2.75-\$4.25; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$4.75-\$6.75; vealers good and choice \$5.25-\$6.50; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice \$4.00-\$5.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice \$5.10-\$5.80; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$5.65-\$5.90; 250-350 lbs good and choice \$5.65-\$6.00; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$3.50-\$4.75. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.10-\$7.25.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.17-\$1.19; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.11 $\frac{1}{4}$ -\$1.15 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.05 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.07; Chi. \$1.09 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.10 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; St.Louis \$1.09; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis \$1.02; No. 1 W. Wh. Portland 85¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 88-1/8-91-1/8¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K. C. 78 $\frac{3}{4}$ -79 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St.Louis 78 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 76-78¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 51-3/8-52-3/8¢; K.C. 50 $\frac{1}{2}$ -53¢; Chi. 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ -51¢; St.Louis 49 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. \$1.00-\$1.01; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.97 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$2.02 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes ranged 90¢-\$1.40 per 100-pounds in city markets; 90¢ f.o.b. Northern and Central points. East Shore Maryland and Virginia Cobblers \$1.50-\$2.25 per stave barrel in a few cities. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.60-\$1.70 per 100 pounds carlot sales in Chicago. Virginia Elberta peaches, all sizes \$2-\$2.25 per six-basket crate in New York City. North Carolina Elbertas \$2-\$2.65 per bushel in the East. Arkansas stock \$1.75-\$2.15 in the Middle West; \$1.25-\$1.50 f.o.b. Nashville. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions brought 85¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers. California stock \$1.15-\$1.35 in the Middle West. New York Yellows 75¢-\$1 in New York City. Iowa stock \$1 in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 14 points to 13.16¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 8.49¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 15 points to 13.33¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 15 points to 13.28¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 28 cents; 91 Score, 27 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 90 Score, 27 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15-15 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; S.Daisies, 15 cents; Y.Americas, 15 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 24-26¢; Standards, 22-23 cents; Firsts, 20-21 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

- - - - -



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 39

Section 1

August 16, 1934

## GOLD EXPORT

A rousing rally in the dollar yesterday followed the demonstration of this country's readiness to give up gold to protect its currency, as shown by the withdrawal of \$1,000,000 bullion from the Federal Reserve Bank by the Guaranty Trust Company for shipment to France. The transaction was the first arbitrage export of gold from this country under the new gold standard. The reaction to the news of the gold exports indicated how deep had been Europe's previous doubts about the good faith of the new gold standard. (Press.)

## WHEAT ACREAGES

The United States made the second best showing of all countries concerned last year in carrying out the acreage provisions of the international wheat agreement, says a London wireless to the New York Times. Figures submitted to the Wheat Advisory Committee by Andrew Cairns, its secretary, and made public last night, showed the United States had been able to reduce its acreage by 12 percent. The only nation with a better record was Australia, which reduced its acreage by the full 15 percent prescribed by the agreement. Among the other exporting nations, Canada cut her acreage 10 percent and Argentina 5 percent. The worst showing was made by Britain, which increased her acreage by 6 percent.

## ENGLISH FOOD BOYCOTT

There is a growing movement to boycott all Australian food and other products throughout Lancashire, England, as a counter attack to the Australian Government's imposition of a "prohibitive" tariff on certain classes of Lancashire cotton goods, says a Manchester wireless to the New York Times. The Australian High Commissioner, Stanley M. Bruce, has agreed to receive a deputation from the Lancashire cotton industry next Wednesday. It has already protested to the British Government.

A Canberra wireless to the New York Times says that Col. T. W. White, Minister for Trade and Customs, declared yesterday that the goods affected by Australian tariffs were a small percentage of Australia's requirements. He said British trade was affected to the extent of only 7 percent of the total imports from Great Britain.

## MIDWEST RAINFALL

Chicago received the heaviest rainfall in ten months as a violent thunderstorm broke over the city and northern Illinois early yesterday, says a report to the New York Times. Rain fell throughout the day in Chicago and in the entire Central West, with the exception of the Dakotas, bringing relief to parched crops and pasture lands. More rain was forecast for today.

## HOPKINS ON RELIEF

What the American unemployed need and are going to get is work and not a dole, Harry L. Hopkins, United States Relief Administrator, who has been studying the handling of the idle in Germany, Italy, Austria and France, said yesterday in a Paris interview. "The United States must work out a system of its own in accordance with American conditions of life," said Mr. Hopkins. "There is enough work available to keep every American busy for 25 years..."



## Section 2

**Avoiding Farm Foreclosures** "The term 'moratorium' came into general use when foreign governments found it impossible to meet their payments on the war debts due this country," says an editorial in the Weekly Kansas City Star (August 8). "Shortly afterwards it was employed in the discussion of the affairs of banks in difficulty. Later it was found in general use by large corporations seeking relief through the RFC. The Frazier-Lemke bill and various state laws have extended the principle of the moratorium to farm indebtedness. The most recent development is the action taken by 22 Iowa insurance companies in agreeing to a voluntary moratorium on farm mortgage foreclosures. They will not institute proceedings until the farmer's indebtedness has been taken up and considered by a county farm debt adjustment committee. As a general rule farmers want to pay their debts. They are willing to make almost any sacrifice to prevent a foreclosure, which involves not only their credit, but their homes and their means of making a living. If, through a moratorium, the farmer is able to reestablish himself, it is a benefit not only to him but to the community. Frequently the creditors also are able to get out with less loss than they would assume after paying all court costs and taking over land which they are unable to operate as efficiently as the owner operator who has been displaced..."

**Forest-Fire Protection** "During the recent dry spell many states closed their forests to campers and sportsmen in order to cut down losses by fire," says an editorial in the Christian Science Monitor (August 9). "For those who have witnessed a forest fire at its height or seen the desolation attendant afterward, the wisdom of this move is apparent. But many fires are started by sparks from passing railway locomotives. The number has been estimated as high as eight daily during dry weather. Fire rangers in the Northwest successfully experimented with high-powered automobiles equipped with flanged wheels for travel on rails. Following behind passenger and freight trains these automobiles carry ranger and fire-fighting equipment to stop incipient fires before they cause serious harm...The East, New England in particular, would do well to profit by the experience in the Northwest. Large numbers of CCC camps are established in the northeastern states, capable of guarding the forests to a certain extent. Lumber, pulp and allied industries in the area rank second in importance only to manufacturing. It would seem wise in view of the need for protection against sparks from engines to adopt western methods, particularly in heavily wooded sections where railroads travel through miles of dense woodland and where fires would have to make considerable progress before coming to the notice of the nearest forest ranger."

**Canadian Field Crops** The condition of field crops in Canada declined sharply during July, says a bulletin by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. High temperatures and drought were responsible for the major portion of the decline. On the last day of the month the condition of spring wheat was 63 percent, a drop of 19 percent from the condition reported on June 30. Fall wheat production is the lowest in the bureau's records,



dating from 1908. The total yield is given at 7,022,000 bushels. With regard to the Prairie Provinces, the bulletin says that during the first ten days of August the weather had been mostly hot and dry and further crop damage has occurred, especially to late-sown crops. The dry weather experienced in July caused premature ripening in many areas. During the first week of August precipitation was more general throughout Ontario, and late crops, which had reached a precarious stage, have benefited. (Canadian Press.)

**Cattle Purchasing** After the last great round-up, Upper Missouri River ranchmen stood by silently recently while 10,000 head of drought-stricken cattle purchased by the government were loaded on cars, says a Williston, N.Dak., report by the Associated Press. Three solid carloads were bound for eastern slaughter pens and fresh pastures in Georgia, far from native prairie land. The original call, when the shipment was organized, was for 8,000 head, but desperate farmers exceeded the quota in an effort to move the greater portion of the starving beasts from the country in one gigantic shipment. Grazing stock was branded with a green bar on the ribs and designated southern pastures. Slaughter cattle carried the uniform "U.S." brand. Norman Findahl, Medora stockman, said the Williston shipment was the most spectacular in history. It was absolutely necessary, he said, that the stock move at once for herds could never survive the great drought.

**Manchukuo Farm Aid** The Manchukuo Government has announced that on account of poor farming conditions during the current year the funds available for farm loans will be increased. Last year more than \$1,500,000 was issued in small loans to farmers to assist them in the purchase of seeds and the payment of harvesting costs. Most of these loans were repaid before the end of winter. During the coming season it is expected that more than \$2,000,000 will be given out by government banks. The farmers are required to present security and to pay interest at the rate of eight-tenths of 1 percent a month. (New York Times.)

**Australian Trade** Recent events have emphasized the fact that Australia is in greivous need of a settled trade and tariff policy, says a Melbourne report to the New York Times. The lack of a far-sighted program has been the cause of considerable misunderstanding abroad and has led to retaliatory measures which may increase. Under the Ottawa agreement the Commonwealth promised Great Britain to give British goods a minimum of 15 percent preference. It also agreed not to increase the protection against British goods without consulting a tariff board which would be an independent investigating and advisory authority. Recently the Ministry was thrown into a panic by the announcement that Britain planned to impose quotas designed to protect British agriculture. Although it has been officially denied, there seems to be no doubt that the Commonwealth told Britain that if such quotas were imposed Australia could not promise to maintain its prevailing tariff preferences to British manufactures. Although the plan to impose quotas has been shelved, it is feared that the shelving is only temporary.



Section 3  
MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 15--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$5.50-\$9.25; cows good \$2.75-\$4.00; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$4.50-\$6.75; vealers good and choice \$5.25-\$6.50; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good \$4.00-\$5.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice \$5.40-\$6.00; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$5.90-\$6.15; 250-350 lbs good and choice \$5.90-\$6.15; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$3.75-\$5.00. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.00-\$7.10.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.15-1/8-\$1.18-1/8; No. 2 Am.Dur.\*Minneap. \$1.10-3/8-\$1.14-3/8; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.02 1/2-\$1.04 1/2; Chi. \$1.06 1/2; St.Louis \$1.05 1/2 (Nom); No. 2 S.R.Wr.St.Louis 99¢; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 84¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 88 1/4-91 1/4¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K.C. 77 1/4-78¢; St.Louis 76 1/2¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 75 3/4¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 50-7/8-51-7/8¢; K.C. 49 1/2-51 1/2¢; Chi. 49 1/2¢; St.Louis 47 3/4¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. \$1.02-\$1.04; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.94 3/4-\$1.99 3/4.

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes ranged 85¢-\$1.30 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; 90¢ f.o.b. Northern and Central points. Idaho sacked Bliss Triumphs \$1.57 1/2-\$1.70 carlot sales in Chicago; Russet Burbanks \$1.55-\$1.70. East Shore Maryland and Virginia Cobblers \$1.25-\$2.25 per stave barrel in city markets. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions brought 85¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers. California stock \$1.15-\$1.25 in the Middle West. Washington Valencias \$1.10-\$1.50 in a few cities. Arkansas Elberta peaches, all sizes, \$2.25 per bushel basket in Chicago. Illinois Elbertas \$2-\$2.35 in the Middle West. North Carolina Elbertas \$2-\$2.75 per bushel in Pittsburgh.

Average price Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 14 points to 13.30¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 8.32¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 14 points to 13.47¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 15 points to 13.43¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 28 cents; 91 Score, 27 1/2 cents; 90 Score, 27 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15-15 1/2 cents; S.Daisies, 15 cents; Y.Americas, 15 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 24-26 1/2 cents; Standards, 21-23 cents; Firsts, 21 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.

- - - - -



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. LIV, No. 40

Section 1

August 17, 1934

**WHEAT CONFERENCE** Delegates to the International Wheat Conference last night engaged in a "free for all" debate on the issue of acreage reduction, an agreement on which is being urged by the American-Canadian-Australian bloc, says a London report to the Associated Press. This bloc, composed of three of the four big producers--Argentina is the other--is seeking an agreement also on tentative export quotas as well as a quarterly system of quotas, which would be more elastic than the annual system in effect last year.

**COTTON STRIKE** A nation-wide strike in the cotton textile industry on or before September 1 was voted yesterday at the annual convention of the United Textile Workers of America. The strike will affect 500,000 workers, leaders said, particularly in the South and New England. The union has a total membership of about 300,000. The resolution, approved by all but 10 of the 571 delegates, empowers the incoming executive council to call the strike. The date of the strike will be kept secret. (A.P.)

**MIDWEST WEATHER** Reports yesterday indicated that relief from the drought over the Middle West was even more pronounced than expected, according to a Chicago dispatch to the New York Times. Eight cities in Ohio, nine in Indiana, four in Illinois, ten in Missouri and several in Kansas reported, officially, a rainfall of more than one inch; this in addition to the generally copious amounts that fell on Wednesday. Many other cities had precipitation of from a half to one full inch.

**DEPARTMENT FOOD GRADES** NRA has begun receiving promises from large chain grocers to place Department of Agriculture grades on the labels of all canned goods they sell, officials announced. "The immediate and favorable results from the present drive to make canned food labels more informative have been very gratifying to NRA," an official announcement commented. "Past efforts of consumers and governmental agencies in the same direction have met with little or no success. The present campaign was started when President Roosevelt demanded as a condition of his approval of the canning industry code that a committee recommend provisions on standards for inclusion in that code." (Press.)

**WHOLESALE PRICES** The general average of wholesale commodity prices advanced last week to the highest level reached since March 1931, Commissioner Lubin of the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced yesterday. They rose four-tenths of 1 percent over the previous week to 75.4 percent of the 1926 average. The advance was confined to farm products, foods and fuel and lighting materials, with a minor advance in the miscellaneous group. (New York Times.)



## Section 2

Lumber  
Review

The National Lumber Manufacturers Association states that the lumber price index of the Bureau of Labor, which was 88 last December, is expected to drop to around 80 when the recent 10 percent reduction in minimum mill prices begins to be reflected statistically, says the Wall Street Journal. Lumber stocks are considered to be in surplus by nearly 4,000,000 feet, but an increase in lumber buying during the rest of the year is confidently expected. Attention is called to the fact that since the lumber code became effective in August, 1933, more than 5,000 small sawmills have been put into operation. At the rate of lumber consumption for the first six months of 1934, the year's lumber consumption will equal 15.5 billion feet, as compared with 14.6 billion feet in 1933, the association predicted.

Next Year's  
Weather

"Already the long-range forecasters are telling us what the winter's weather will be, thus proving that the belief in magic is not yet dead," says an editorial in the New York Times (August 14). "These plotters of cycles are direct descendants of the astrologists. Once the magician waved a wand and mumbled cabalistic formulas. Now he buries himself in figures and produces graphs that bear as much relation to reality as the signs of the Zodiac. Even the supposedly unemotional meteorologists are not free from this ancient form of self-delusion. The master of modern weather cabalists was no doubt the last Prof. Eduard Brueckner. After having studied records of lake levels, harvests, cold and mild winters and thousands of similar phenomena, he gave the world the best of all cycles—one that averages about 35 years, with periodicities of warmth and drought and cold and rain. But when Brueckner is put to the test of telling a farmer in the Corn Belt what next year's weather will be he is as likely to miss as to score...Not until the physical causes of seasonal fluctuations are discovered is long-range forecasting likely to achieve success. Forced to abandon short-lived phenomena, the prophets turn to the variation in pack ice in the Antarctic or the temperature of the Pacific Ocean. Equally good results could probably be obtained by correlating the number of trains that pass through Toledo, Ohio, at different seasons with the wheat crop in Argentina."

Wheat  
Figures

Official statistics, showing exactly how the international wheat agreement worked last year, the first of its operation, were disclosed recently at a closed session of the international wheat conference, says a London report to the Associated Press. The figures in bushels for the year ended July 31 are as follows: United States, export quota, 47,000,000, actual exports, 27,000,000; Canada, 200,000,000 and 195,000,000; Argentina, 110,000,000 and 144,000,000; Australia, 105,000,000 and 90,000,000; Danubian countries, 54,000,000 and 36,000,000; Russia, no quota, exports 27,000,000. The following are the actual reductions in the planted acreage in comparison with the previous three-year average: United States, 12 percent; Canada, 10 1/2; Australia, over 15; Argentina, 5 to 10 (unofficial); Germany, 5; Italy, 4; France, 1. Two countries, Great Britain and Greece, reported increases of 6 percent each in their wheat acreage.



### Tree Belt Planting

The major work in planting the proposed 100-mile wide shelter belt of trees from Canada to the Gulf will be done by farmers through whose land the belt will pass, Ed. Morell, in charge of the project, said recently. "We expect to enter into cooperative agreements with individual farmers which will provide for their doing the necessary soil preparation, putting up needed fences and planting seedlings when they are ready," Mr. Morell said. In this manner, a large portion of the \$10,000,000 made available for the project will be diverted into the hands of farmers in compensation for their labor. (United Press.)

### Butter Coops

The output of creamery butter by farmers' cooperative associations has increased each year since 1926, according to estimates by the Cooperative Division, Farm Credit Administration, based on reports from approximately 1,500 associations. Of the total production of creamery butter, the percentage produced in cooperative plants had risen from 34.3 percent in 1926 to 36.7 in 1933. "This percentage gain," in the opinion of T. G. Stitts, in charge of dairying, "is very significant. It was brought about not by an increase in the number of cooperative creameries but by an increase in the average volume handled by the cooperatives reporting. Better business management of the cooperative plants and more efficient service to the members undoubtedly is a factor in attracting more business to them..." In 1926 the estimated output of 1,480 associations that reported the making of butter was 497,961,000 pounds. By 1932 production had risen to 608,569,000 pounds, according to reports from 1,484 associations. The 1933 output, as reported by 1,486 associations, was 636,705,000 pounds, an increase of more than 28,000,000 pounds over the previous year.

### Brazilian Cotton

Cotton planting in Brazil has been steadily increasing, and the 1935 crop is estimated at 360,000,000 pounds, says a Rio de Janeiro report to the New York Times. The government encourages the planting in the belief that cotton will soon become a great national economic factor, second only to coffee. Recently the Department of Agriculture received an appropriation to be used for the purchase of seed for distribution in the cotton-growing states. Government cotton experimental stations are in operation throughout the country and scientific cotton growing is being taught to the farmers.

### Wholesale Distribution

Wholesale distribution, although showing marked improvement during the last few months of 1933, was 55.9 percent below the value of distribution in 1929, the predepression year covered by the first census of distribution made by the Department of Commerce, according to a preliminary survey. Last year there were 159,724 wholesale establishments doing business amounting to \$20,482,271,000, as compared with 169,655 establishments whose net sales amounted to \$69,056,604,000 in 1929. During the 1933 calendar year, the survey showed 1,170,358 full-time and part-time employees were engaged in wholesale trade, against 1,605,042 in 1929, a decrease of 26.5 percent. Salaries and wages for the past year amount to \$1,645,539,000, compared with \$3,010,130,000 in 1929, a drop of 45.3 percent. (New York Times.)



# Section 3

## MARKET QUOTATIONS

August 16--Livestock at Chicago: Slaughter cattle calves and vealers, steers 900-1300 lbs good and choice \$5.75-\$9.50; cows good \$2.75-\$4.25; heifers 550-750 lbs good and choice \$4.50-\$7.00; vealers good and choice \$5.75-\$7.00; feeder and stocker steers 500-1050 lbs good and choice \$4.00-\$5.50. Hogs: 160-200 lbs good and choice \$5.65-\$6.30; 200-250 lbs good and choice \$6.20-\$6.50; 250-350 lbs good and choice \$6.15-\$6.50; slaughter pigs 100-130 lbs good and choice \$3.90-\$5.25. Slaughter sheep and lambs, lambs good and choice 90 lbs down \$6.00-\$7.10.

Grain: No. 1 D.No.Spr.Wheat\*Minneap. \$1.15 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ; No. 2 Am.Dur.\* Minneap. \$1.12 $\frac{3}{4}$ -\$1.16 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; No. 2 Hd.Wr.\*K.C. \$1.04-\$1.05; Chi. \$1.07 $\frac{3}{4}$ ; St.Louis \$1.07; No. 2 S.R.Wr. St.Louis \$1.00; No. 1 W.Wh. Portland 84¢; No. 2 rye, Minneap. 88-1/8¢-91-1/8¢; No. 2 yellow corn, K. C. 77 $\frac{3}{4}$ -79¢; St.Louis 77 $\frac{1}{4}$ -78¢; No. 3 yellow, Chi. 77-77 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No. 3 white oats, Minneap. 52 $\frac{3}{4}$ -53 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; K. C. 50 $\frac{1}{4}$ -52 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Chi. 49-51¢; St.Louis 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Choice malting barley, Minneap. \$1.05-\$1.06; No. 1 flaxseed, Minneap. \$1.95 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$2.00 $\frac{1}{2}$ .

New Jersey sacked Cobbler potatoes brought 85¢-\$1.30 per 100-pounds in city markets; 90¢ f.o.b. Northern and Central Points. Long Island sacked Cobblers 90¢-\$1.05 in New York City. Idaho sacked Russet Burbanks \$1.57 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.65 carlot sales in Chicago. East Shore Maryland and Virginia Cobblers \$1.50-\$2.25 per stave barrel in Baltimore and Pittsburgh. Massachusetts Yellow Varieties of onions ranged 85¢-\$1.25 per 50-pound sack in consuming centers. California stock \$1.10-\$1.25 in the Middle West. New York Yellows 85¢-\$1.10 in the East. Arkansas Elberta peaches, all sizes, \$1.90-\$2.25 per bushel basket in the Middle West. Illinois Elbertas \$1.50-\$2.25.

Average price Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 6 points to 13.24¢ per lb. On the same day last year the price was 8.97¢. October future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 13.40¢ and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 13.36¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 Score, 28 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; 91 Score, 28 cents; 90 Score, 27 cents. Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 15-15 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; S.Daisies, 15 cents; Y.Americas, 15 cents. Wholesale prices of fresh eggs, mixed colors, at New York (Urner Barry Company quotations) were: Specials, 24-26 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Standards, 21-23 cents; Firsts, 21 cents. (Prepared by BAE)

\*Prices basis ordinary protein.